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- (54) Mesomorphic compound, liquid crystal composition containing same, liquid crystal device using same and display apparatus.

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WO-A-88/08019
JOURNAL FÜR PRAKTISCHE CHEMIE, vol. 321, Nr. 4, 1979, LEIPZIG, DD, Seiten 643-654; K. DOELLING ET AL.: "Kristallin-flüssige Thiazole"
(73) Proprietor: **CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA**
30-2, 3-chome, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku Tokyo (JP)
(72) Inventor: **Takiguchi, Takao, c/o Canon**

Kabushiki Kaisha
3-30-2, Shimomaruko
Ohta-ku,
Tokyo (JP)
Inventor: **Iwaki, Takashi, c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha**
3-30-2, Shimomaruko
Ohta-ku,
Tokyo (JP)
Inventor: **Togano, Takeshi, c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha**
3-30-2, Shimomaruko
Ohta-ku,
Tokyo (JP)
Inventor: **Yamada, Yoko, c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha**
3-30-2, Shimomaruko
Ohta-ku,
Tokyo (JP)
Inventor: **Nakamura, Shinichi, c/o Canon Kabushiki Kaisha**
3-30-2, Shimomaruko
Ohta-ku,
Tokyo (JP)

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EP 0 439 170 B1

⑦A Representative: **Bühling, Gerhard, Dipl.-Chem.**
et al
Patentanwaltsbüro
Tiedtke-Bühling-Kinne & Partner
Bavariaring 4
D-80336 München (DE)

Description

FIELD OF THE INVENTION AND RELATED ART

5 The present invention relates to a novel mesomorphic compound, a liquid crystal composition containing the compound, a liquid crystal device using the composition and a display apparatus, and more particularly to a novel liquid crystal composition with improved responsiveness to an electric field and a liquid crystal device using the liquid crystal composition for use in a liquid crystal display apparatus, a liquid crystal-optical shutter, etc.

10 Hitherto, liquid crystal devices have been used as an electro-optical device in various fields. Most liquid crystal devices which have been put into practice use TN (twisted nematic) type liquid crystals, as shown in "Voltage-Dependent Optical Activity of a Twisted Nematic Liquid Crystal" by M. Schadt and W. Helfrich "Applied Physics Letters" Vol. 18, No. 4 (Feb. 15, 1971) pp. 127-128.

These devices are based on the dielectric alignment effect of a liquid crystal and utilize an effect that 15 the average molecular axis direction is directed to a specific direction in response to an applied electric field because of the dielectric anisotropy of liquid crystal molecules. It is said that the limit of response speed is on the order of milli-seconds, which is too slow for many uses. On the other hand, a simple matrix system of driving is most promising for application to a large-area flat display in view of cost, productivity, etc., in combination. In the simple matrix system, an electrode arrangement wherein scanning electrodes and signal electrodes are arranged in a matrix, and for driving, a multiplex driving scheme is adopted 20 wherein an address signal is sequentially, periodically and selectively applied to the scanning electrodes and prescribed data signals are selectively applied in parallel to the signal electrodes in synchronism with the address signal.

When the above-mentioned TN-type liquid crystal is used in a device of such a driving system, a 25 certain electric field is applied to regions where a scanning electrode is selected and signal electrodes are not selected or regions where a scanning electrode is not selected and a signal electrode is selected (which regions are so called "half-selected points"). If the difference between a voltage applied to the selected points and a voltage applied to the half-selected points is sufficiently large, and a voltage threshold level required for allowing liquid crystal molecules to be aligned or oriented perpendicular to an electric field is set to a value therebetween, display devices normally operate. However, in fact, as the number (N) of 30 scanning lines increases, a time (duty ratio) during which an effective electric field is applied to one selected point when a whole image area (corresponding to one frame) is scanned decreases with a ratio of 1/N. Accordingly, the larger the number of scanning lines are, the smaller is the voltage difference of an effective value applied to a selected point and non-selected points when scanning is repeatedly effected. As 35 a result, this leads to unavoidable drawbacks of lowering of image contrast or occurrence of interference or crosstalk. These phenomena are regarded as essentially unavoidable problems appearing when a liquid crystal having no bistability (i.e. liquid crystal molecules are horizontally oriented with respect to the electrode surface as stable state and is vertically oriented with respect to the electrode surface only when an electric field is effectively applied) is driven (i.e. repeatedly scanned) by making use of a time storage 40 effect. To overcome these drawbacks, the voltage averaging method, the two-frequency driving method, the multiple matrix method, etc. has been already proposed. However, any method is not sufficient to overcome the above-mentioned drawbacks. As a result, it is the present state that the development of large image area or high packaging density in respect to display elements is delayed because it is difficult to sufficiently increase the number of scanning lines.

45 To overcome drawbacks with such prior art liquid crystal devices, the use of liquid crystal devices having bistability has been proposed by Clark and Lagerwall (e.g. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Appln. No. 56-107216, U.S.P. No. 4367924, etc.). In this instance, as the liquid crystals having bistability, ferroelectric liquid crystals having chiral smectic C-phase (SmC*) or H-phase (SmH*) are generally used. These liquid crystals have bistable states of first and second stable states with respect to an electric field applied 50 thereto. Accordingly, as different from optical modulation devices in which the above-mentioned TN-type liquid crystals are used, the bistable liquid crystal molecules are oriented to first and second optically stable states with respect to one and the other electric field vectors, respectively. Further, this type of liquid crystal has a property (bistability) of assuming either one of the two stable states in response to an applied electric and retaining the resultant state in the absence of an electric field.

55 In addition to the above-described characteristic of showing bistability, such a ferroelectric liquid crystal (hereinafter sometimes abbreviated as "FLC") has an excellent property, i.e., a high-speed responsiveness. This is because the spontaneous polarization of the ferroelectric liquid crystal and an applied electric field directly interact with each other to induce transition of orientation states. The resultant response speed is

faster than the response speed due to the interaction between dielectric anisotropy and an electric field by 3 to 4 digits.

Thus, a ferroelectric liquid crystal potentially has very excellent characteristics, and by making use of these properties, it is possible to provide essential improvements to many of the above-mentioned problems with the conventional TN-type devices. Particularly, the application to a high-speed optical shutter and a display of a high density and a large picture is expected. For this reason, there has been made extensive research with respect to liquid crystal materials showing ferroelectricity. However, ferroelectric liquid crystal materials developed heretofore cannot be said to satisfy sufficient characteristics required for a liquid crystal device including low-temperature operation characteristic, high-speed responsiveness, etc. Among a response time τ , the magnitude of spontaneous polarization P_s and viscosity η , the following relationship exists: $\tau = \eta / (P_s \cdot E)$, where E is an applied voltage. Accordingly, a high response speed can be obtained by (a) increasing the spontaneous polarization P_s , (b) lowering the viscosity η , or (c) increasing the applied voltage E . However, the driving voltage has a certain upper limit in view of driving with IC, etc., and should desirably be as low as possible. Accordingly, it is actually necessary to lower the viscosity or increase the spontaneous polarization.

A ferroelectric chiral smectic liquid crystal having a large spontaneous polarization generally provides a large internal electric field in a cell given by the spontaneous polarization and is liable to pose many constraints on the device construction giving bistability. Further, an excessively large spontaneous polarization is liable to accompany an increase in viscosity, so that remarkable increase in response speed may not be attained as a result.

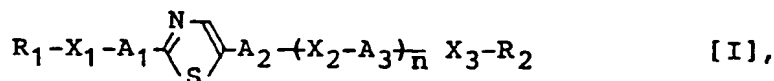
Further, if it is assumed that the operation temperature of an actual display device is 5 - 40 °C, the response speed changes by a factor of about 20, so that it actually exceeds the range controllable by driving voltage and frequency.

As described hereinabove, commercialization of a ferroelectric liquid crystal device requires a liquid crystal composition assuming a chiral smectic phase which has not only a large spontaneous polarization but also a low viscosity, a high-speed responsiveness and a small temperature-dependence of response speed.

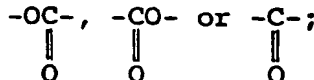
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a mesomorphic compound, a liquid crystal composition, particularly a chiral smectic liquid crystal composition, containing the mesomorphic compound for providing a practical ferroelectric liquid crystal device, a liquid crystal device using the liquid crystal composition and having a high response speed and a smaller temperature-dependence of the response speed, and a display apparatus.

According to the present invention, there is provided a mesomorphic compound represented by the following formula (I):



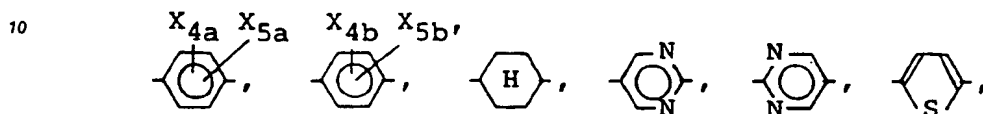
wherein R_1 and R_2 respectively denote an alkyl group having 2 - 16 carbon atoms capable of having a substituent; X_1 and X_3 respectively denote a single bond, $-\dot{O}-$,



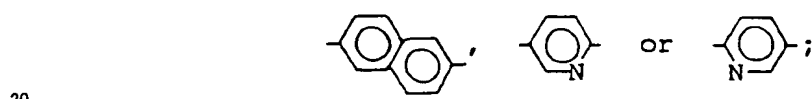
X_2 denotes a single bond,



A_1 and A_2 respectively denote a single bond,



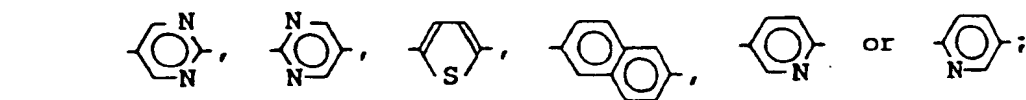
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A_3 denotes

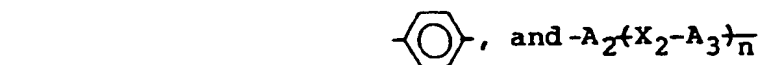


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40 X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} , X_{5b} , X_{4c} and X_{5c} respectively denote hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CN}$ or $-\text{CF}_3$; and n is 0 or 1, with proviso that: X_1 always denotes a single bond when A_1 denotes a single bond, X_3 always denotes a single bond when A_2 denotes a single bond and n is 0; A_1 and A_2 cannot be single bonds simultaneously; X_3 cannot be $-\text{O}-$ when X_1 denotes a single bond or $-\text{O}-$, A_1 denotes a single bond or



45

denotes



and X_1 cannot be a single bond when A_1 denotes

55



and A_2 denotes a single bond and n is 0.

According to the present invention, there is further provided a chiral smectic liquid crystal composition containing at least one species of the mesomorphic compound as described above.

The present invention further provides a liquid crystal device comprising a pair of substrates and such a liquid crystal composition as described above disposed between the electrode plates, and a display apparatus comprising the liquid crystal device.

These and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent upon a consideration of the following description of the preferred embodiments of the present invention taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

10 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a schematic sectional view of a liquid crystal display device using a liquid crystal composition assuming a chiral smectic phase;

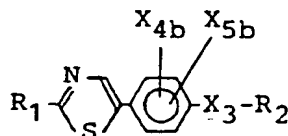
Figures 2 and 3 are schematic perspective views of a device cell embodiment for illustrating the operation principle of a liquid crystal device utilizing ferroelectricity of a liquid crystal composition;

Figure 4 is a block diagram showing a display apparatus comprising a liquid crystal device utilizing ferroelectricity of a liquid crystal composition and a graphic controller; and

Figure 5 is a time chart of image data communication showing time correlation between signal transfer and driving with respect to a liquid crystal display apparatus and a graphic controller.

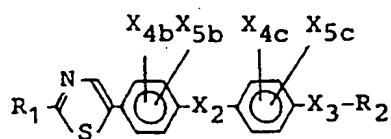
20 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Preferred examples of the mesomorphic compound of the formula (I) may include those represented by the following formulas [Ia] - [Iq]:



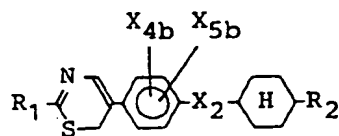
[Ia],

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[Ib],

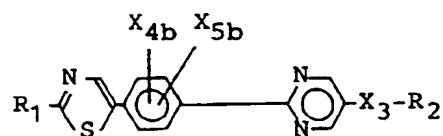
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[Ic],

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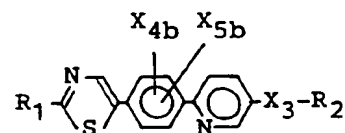
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[Id],

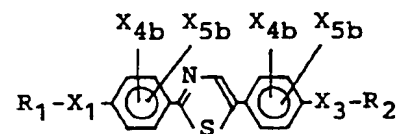
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[Ie],

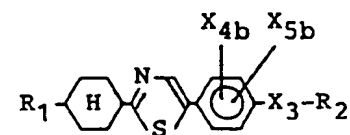
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[If],

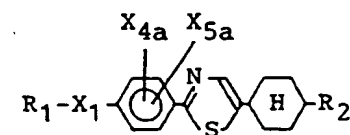
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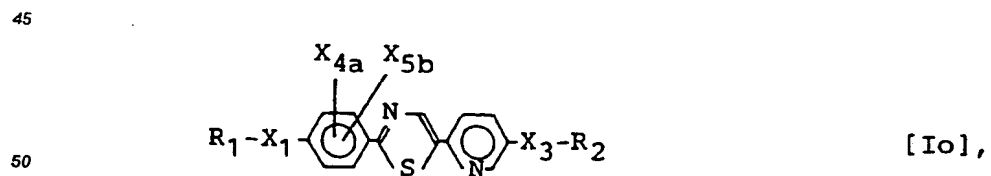
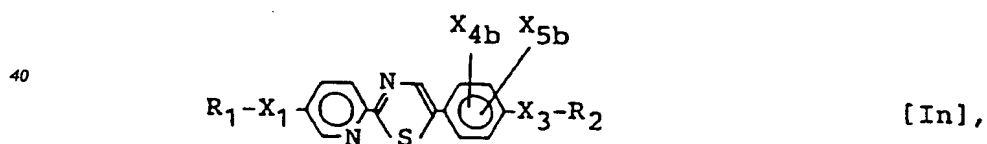
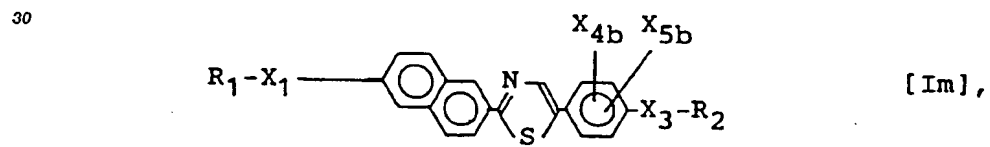
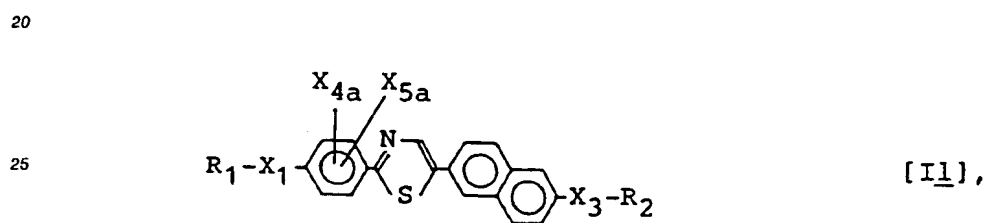
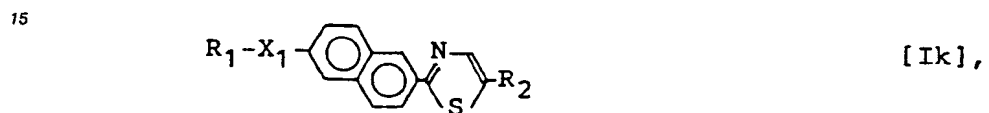
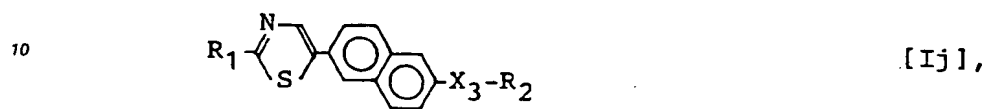
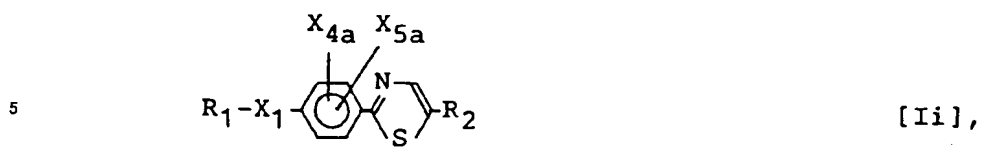
[Ig],

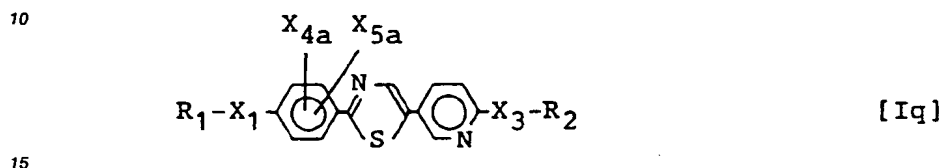
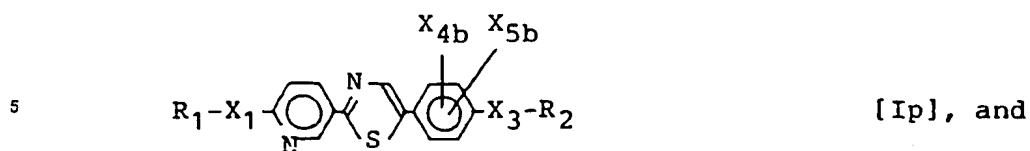
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[Ih],

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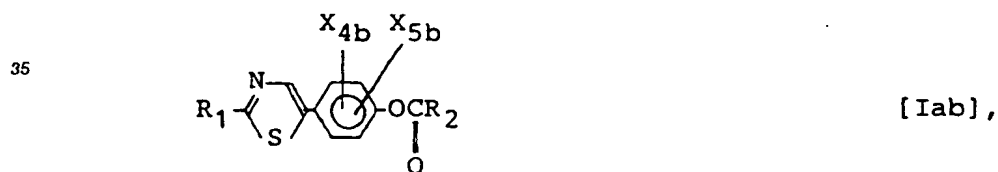
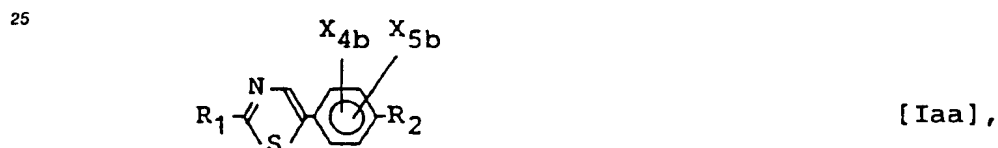




with proviso that X_3 cannot be $-O-$ when X_{4b} and X_{5b} are both hydrogen in the formula [Ia]; and when X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} and X_{5b} and all hydrogen in the formula [If]; and X_1 cannot be a single bond when X_{4a} and X_{5a} are both hydrogen in the formula [Ii].

20 In the above, R_1 , R_2 , X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} , X_{5b} , X_{4c} and X_{5c} respectively denote the same as defined above.

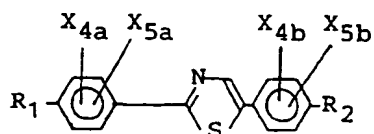
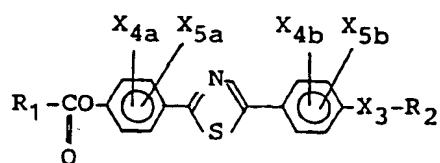
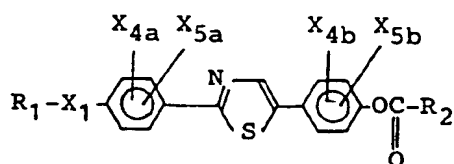
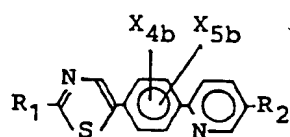
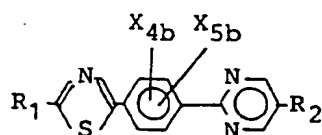
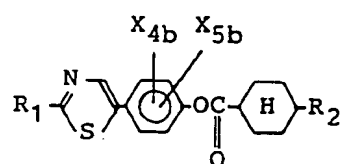
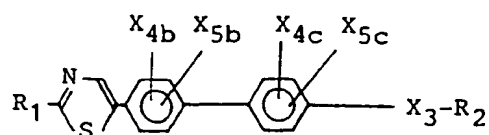
Further, preferred examples of the mesomorphic compound of the formula (I) may include those represented by the following formulas [Iaa] - [Ia]:

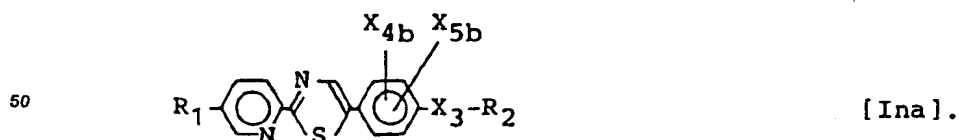
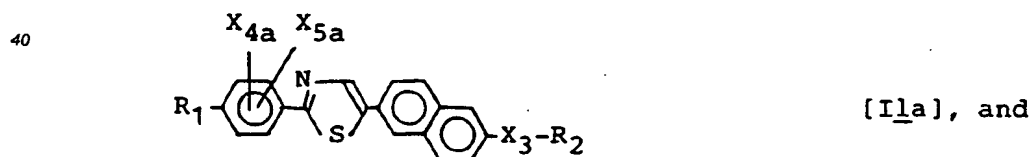
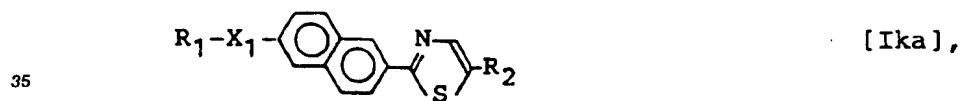
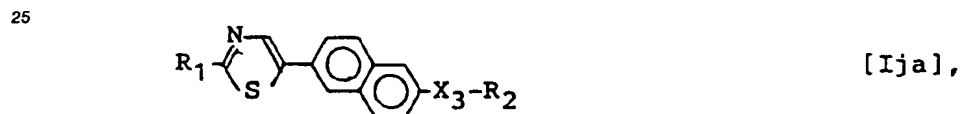
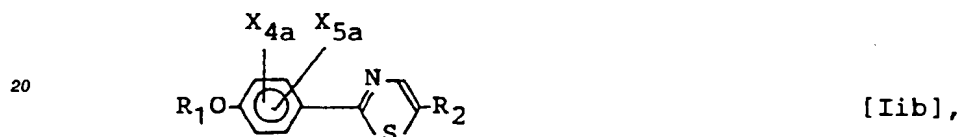
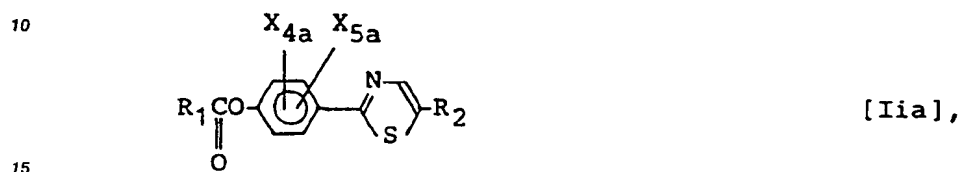
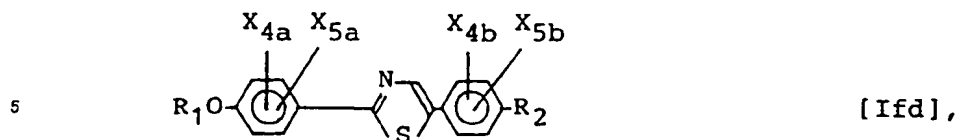


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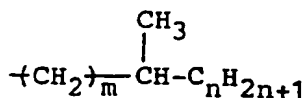


In the above, R₁, R₂, X₁, X₃, X_{4a}, X_{5a}, X_{4b}, X_{5b}, X_{4c} and X_{5c} respectively denote the same as defined above.

Preferred examples of R₁ and R₂ in the formula (I) may respectively include the following groups (i) - (iv):

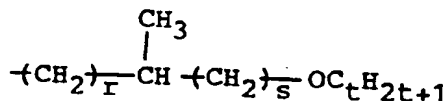
(i) an n-alkyl group having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, particularly having 4 - 14 carbon atoms;

(ii)



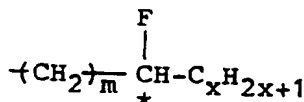
wherein m is an integer of 0 - 6 and n is an integer of 2 - 8 (optically active or inactive);

(iii)



wherein r is an integer of 0 - 6, s is 0 or 1 and t is an integer of 1 - 12 (optically active or inactive); and

(iv)



wherein m is 0 or 1 and x is an integer of 1 - 14. Here, * denotes an optically active center.

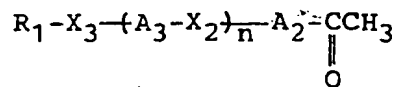
Heretofore, liquid crystals containing or capable of containing thiazole rings have been disclosed in H. Zashke et al., "J. Prake. Chem.", 321, 643 - 654 (1979) and WO 88/08019. However, the former does not disclose a mesomorphic compound comprising a thiazole-2,5-diyl derivative as is represented by the formula (I) according to the present invention. In the latter, there is no disclose of even a specific embodiment of the thiazole-2,5-diyl derivative.

We have found that the thiazole-2,5-diyl derivative of the formula (I) has a lower viscosity than that of a 1,3,4-thiadiazole-2,5-diyl derivative disclosed in WO 88/08019 as is understood from Example 13 and Comparative Example 1 appearing hereinafter, so that the thiazole-2,5-diyl derivative of the formula (I) can provide a ferroelectric chiral smectic liquid crystal composition having high speed responsiveness. We have also found that such a liquid crystal composition improves an operation characteristic at a lower temperature and decreases temperature dependence of response speed. As a result, a liquid crystal device comprising such a liquid crystal composition and a display apparatus using the liquid crystal device showed good display characteristics.

The compounds represented by the general formula (I) may be synthesized through the following reaction schemes A and B.

Reaction Scheme A

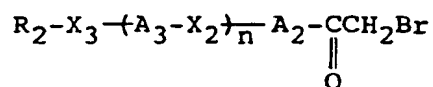
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↓
Bromination

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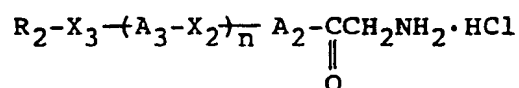


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Hexamethylenetetramine

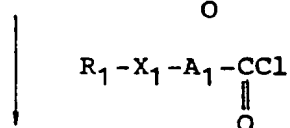
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Hydrochloric acid

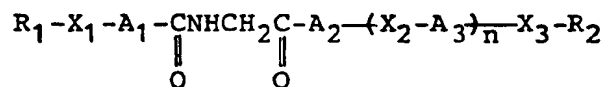
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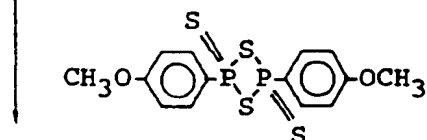
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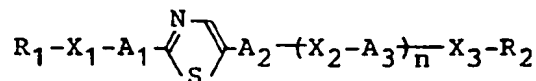
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↓
 P_2S_5 or

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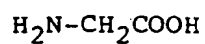
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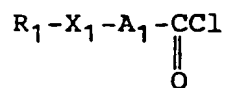
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Reaction Scheme B

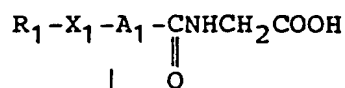
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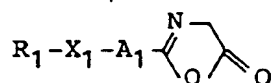
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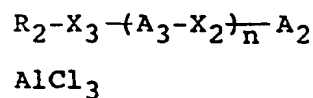
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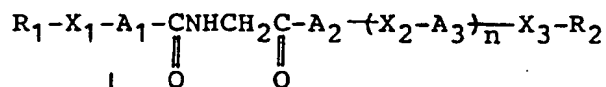
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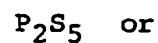
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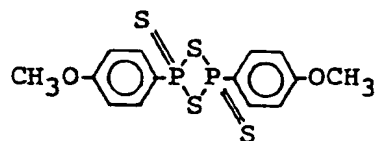
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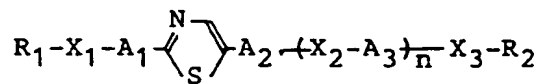
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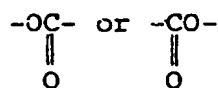
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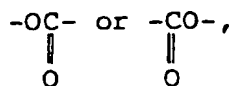
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In a case where X_1 and X_3 are respectively $-\text{O}-$,

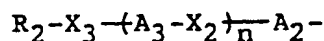
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or X_2 is

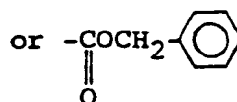
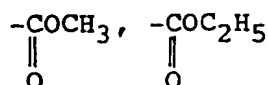
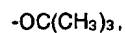
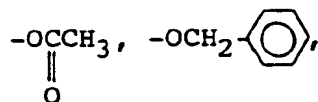


it is also possible to form a group of $R_1-X_1-A_1$ - or



through the following steps (a) to (c):

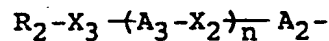
- (a) Hydroxyl group or carboxyl group combined with A_1 or A_2 is modified with addition of a protective group into a non-reactive or less reactive group such as $-OCH_3$,



capable of elimination reaction.

(b) Ring closure is effected to form a thiazole ring.

(c) The protective group is eliminated and then the $R_1-X_1-A_1$ - or

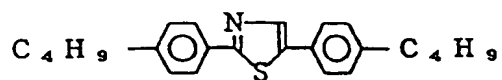


structure is formed.

Specific examples of the mesomorphic compounds represented by the above-mentioned general formula (I) may include those shown by the following structural formulas.

(1-1)

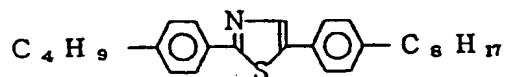
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(1-2)

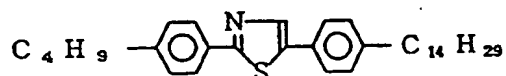
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(1-3)

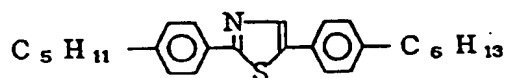
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(1-4)

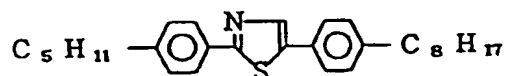
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(1-5)

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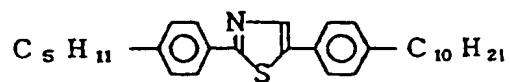


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(1-6)

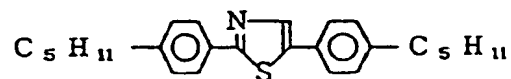
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(1-7)

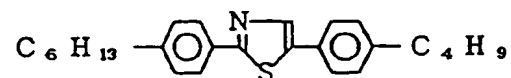
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(1-8)

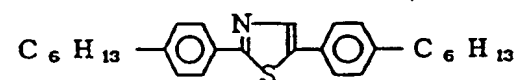
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(1-9)

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(1-10)

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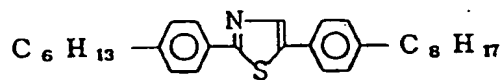


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(1-11)

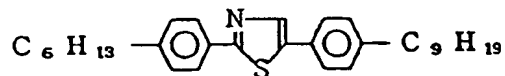
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(1-12)

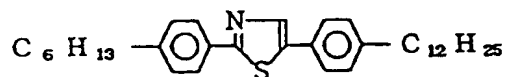
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(1-13)

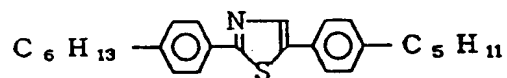
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(1-14)

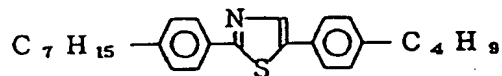
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(1-15)

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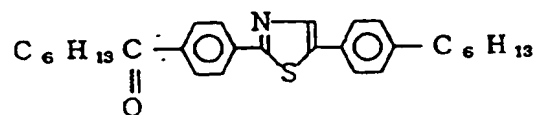


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(1-16)

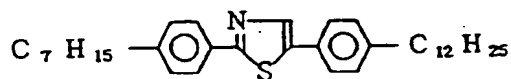
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(1-17)

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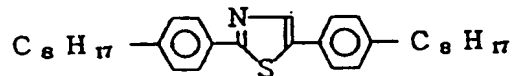
(1-18)

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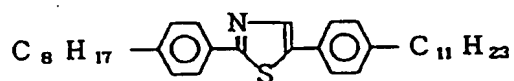
(1-19)



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(1-20)

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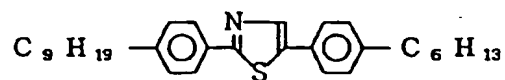
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(1-21)

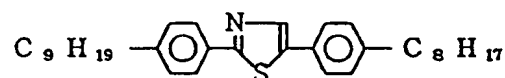
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(1-22)

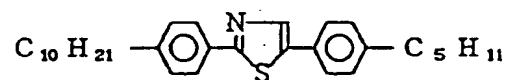
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(1-23)

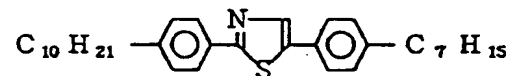
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(1-24)

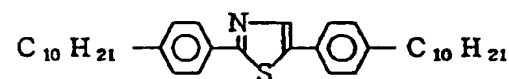
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(1-25)

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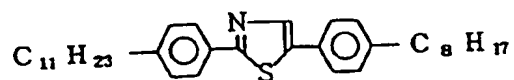


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(1-26)

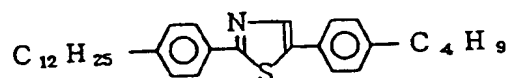
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(1-27)

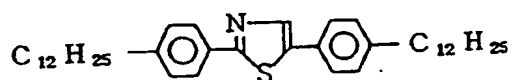
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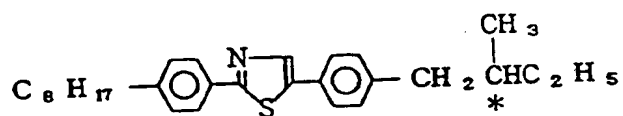
(1-28)

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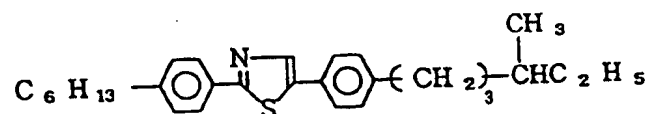
(1-29)



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(1-30)

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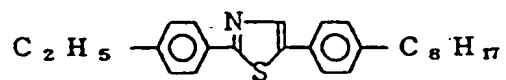
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(1-31)

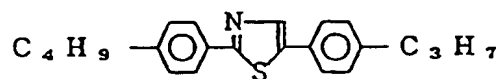
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(1-32)

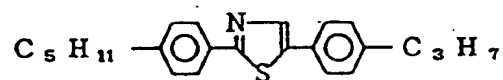
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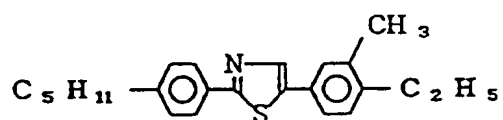
(1-33)

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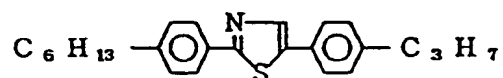
(1-34)



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(1-35)

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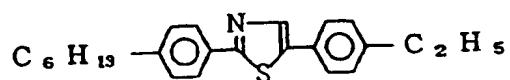
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(1-36)

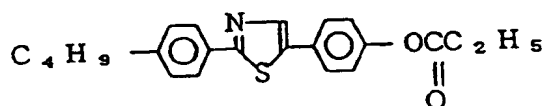
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(1-37)

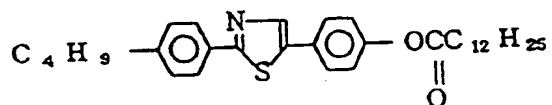
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(1-38)

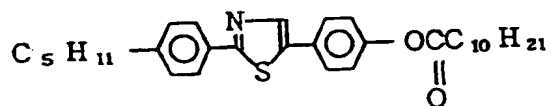
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(1-39)

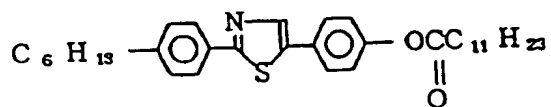
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(1-40)

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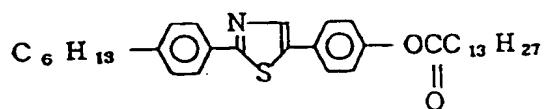


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(1-41)

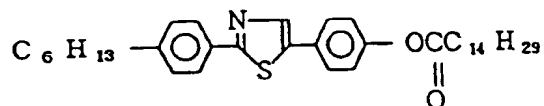
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(1-42)

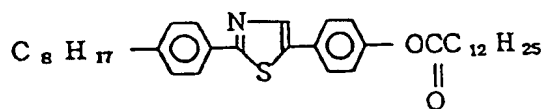
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(1-43)

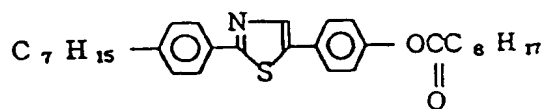
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(1-44)

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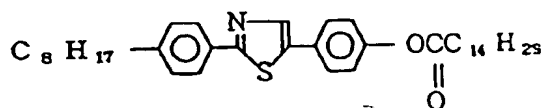
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(1-45)

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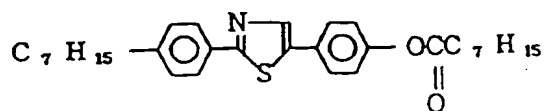
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(1-46)

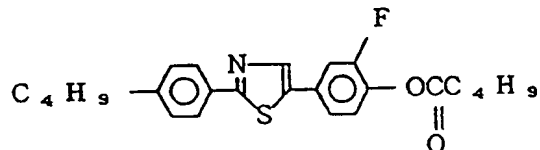
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(1-47)

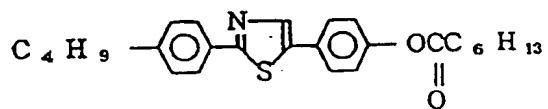
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(1-48)

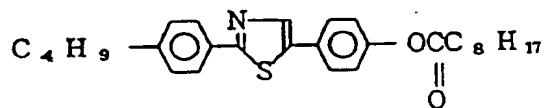
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(1-49)

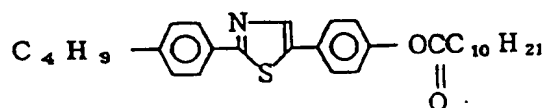
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(1-50)

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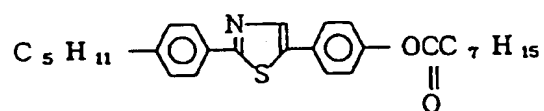


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(1-51)

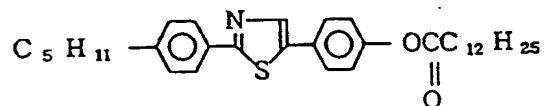
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(1-52)

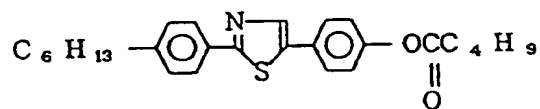
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(1-53)

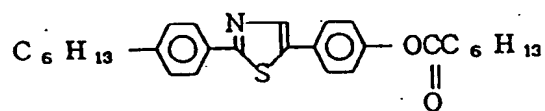
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(1-54)

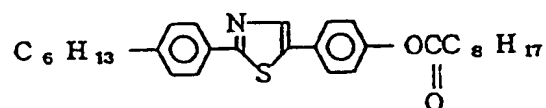
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(1-55)

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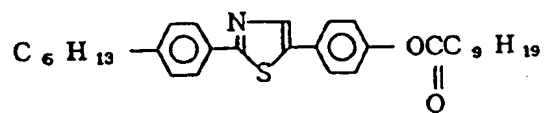


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(1-56)

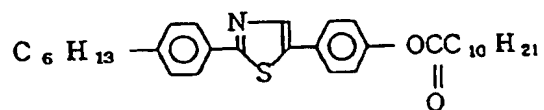
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(1-57)

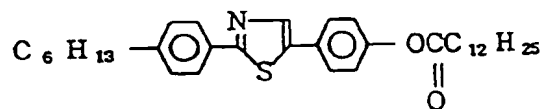
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(1-58)

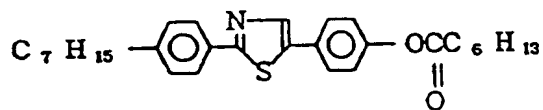
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(1-59)

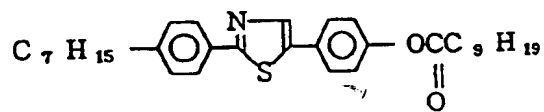
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(1-60)

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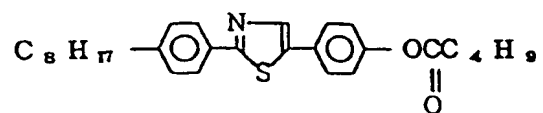


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(1-61)

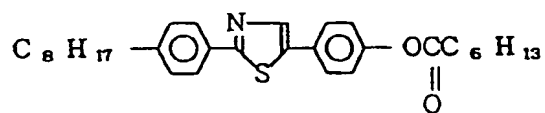
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(1-62)

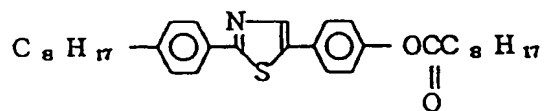
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(1-63)

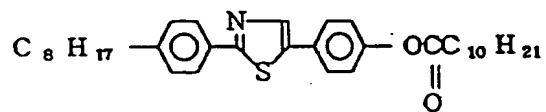
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(1-64)

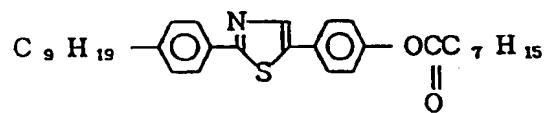
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(1-65)

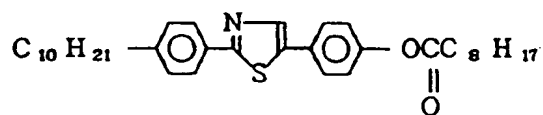
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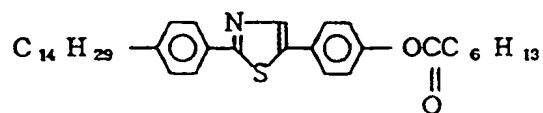
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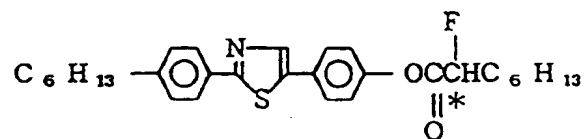
(1-66)



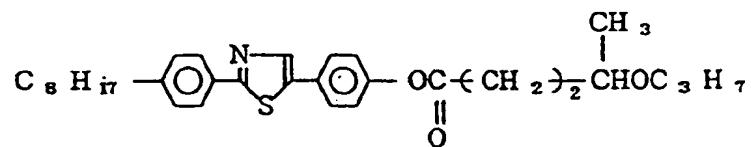
(1-67)



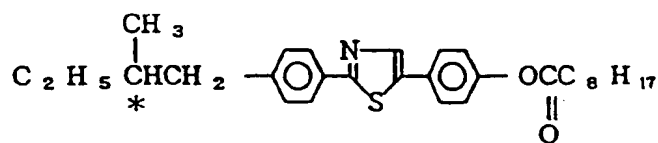
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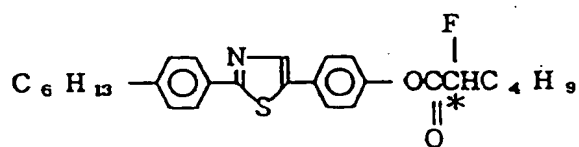
(1-69)



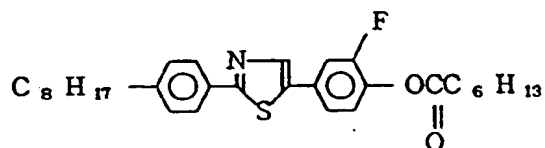
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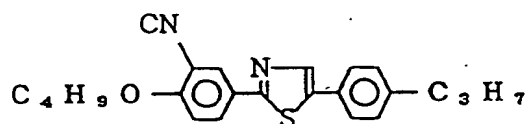
(1-71)



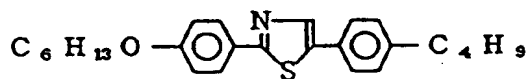
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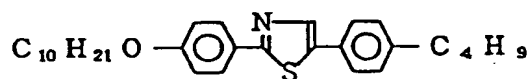
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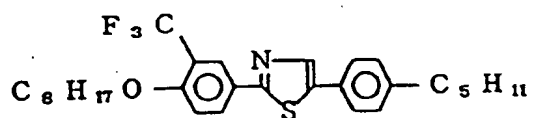
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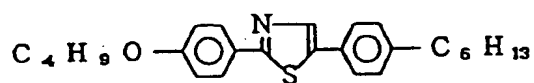
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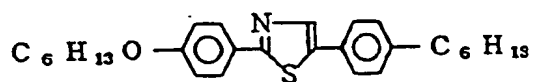
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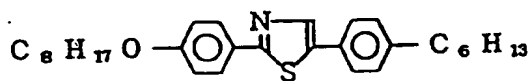
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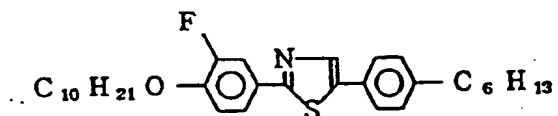
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(1-79)

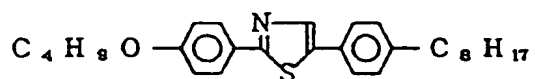


(1-80)



(1-81)

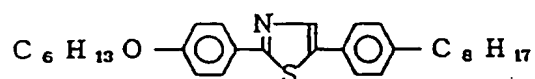
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(1-82)

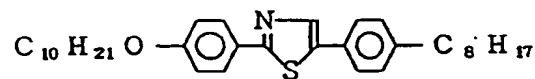
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(1-83)

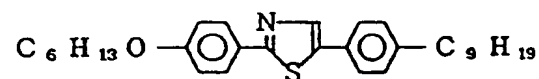
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(1-84)

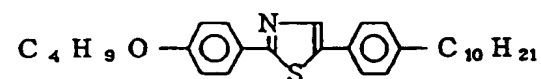
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(1-85)

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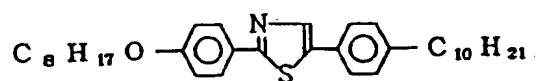


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(1-86)

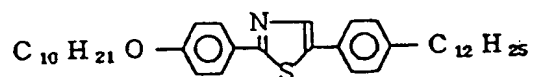
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(1-87)

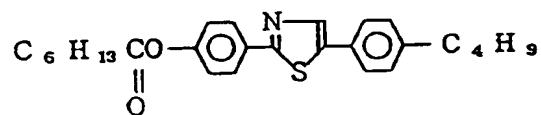
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(1-88)

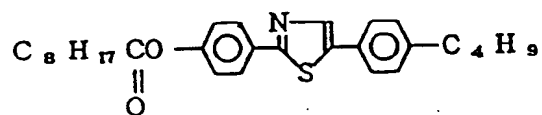
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(1-89)

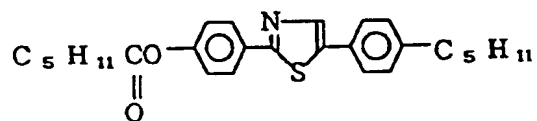
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(1-90)

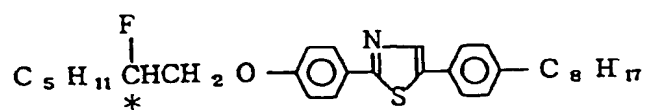
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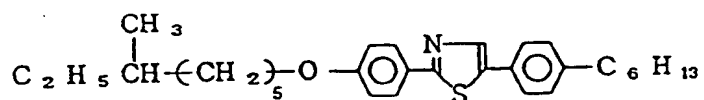
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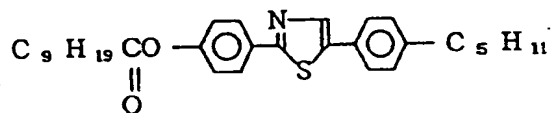
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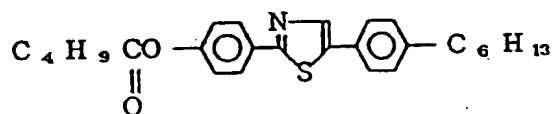
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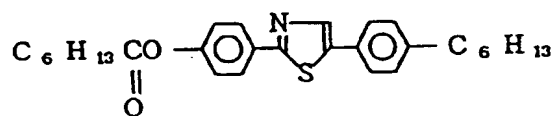
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(1-94)

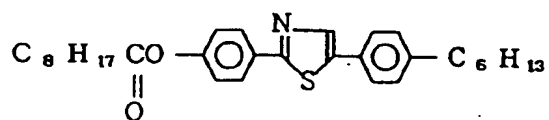


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(1-96)

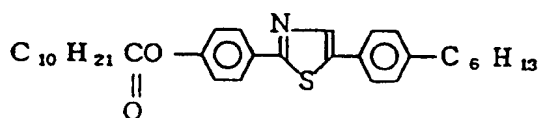
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(1-97)

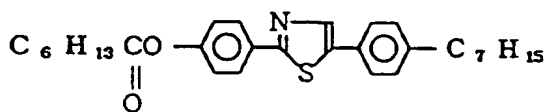
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(1-98)

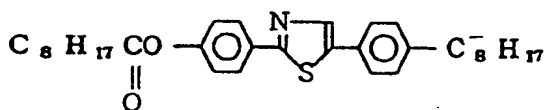
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(1-99)

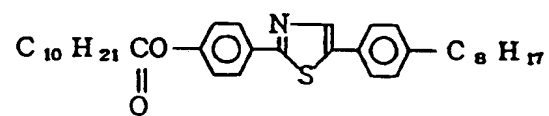
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(1-100)

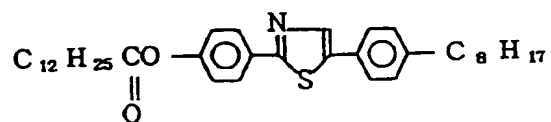
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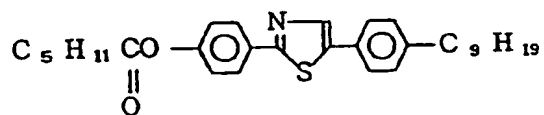
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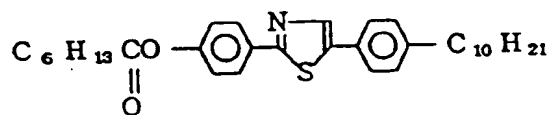
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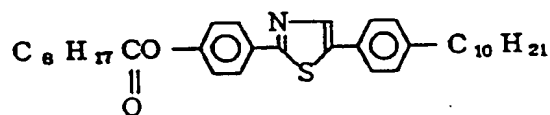
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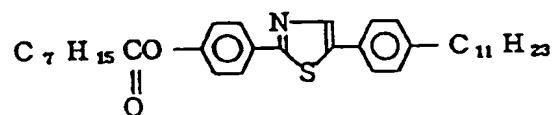
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(1-104)

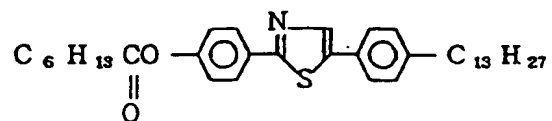


(1-105)



(1-106)

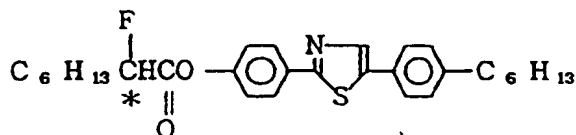
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(1-107)

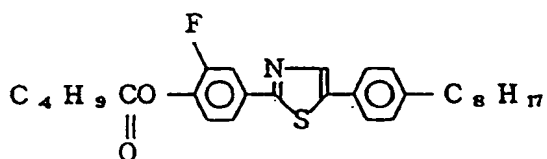
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(1-108)

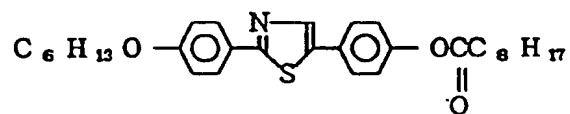
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(1-109)

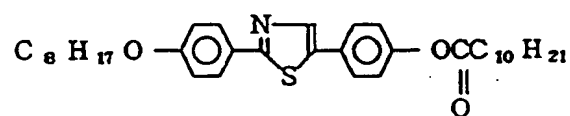
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(1-110)

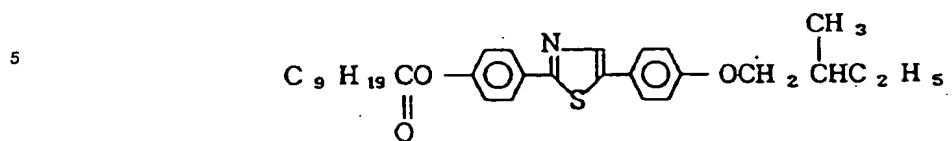
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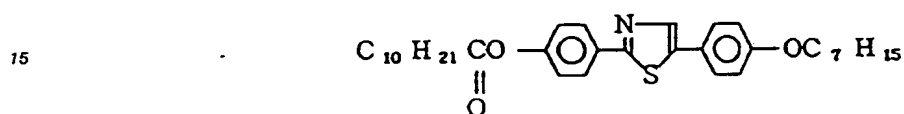
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(1-111)



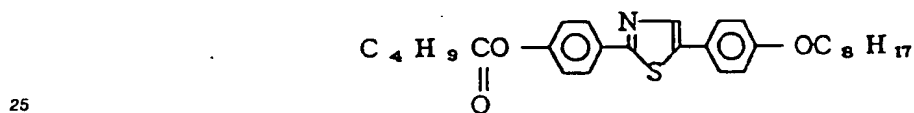
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(1-112)



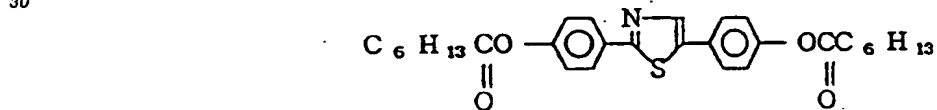
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(1-113)



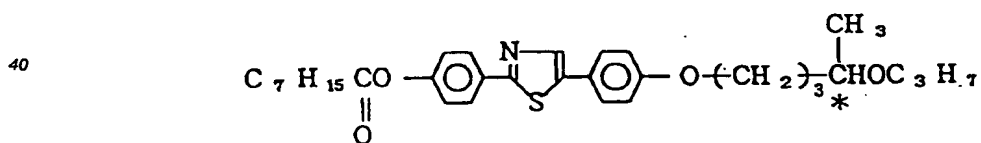
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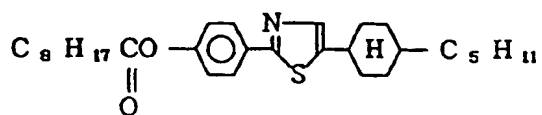
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(1-115)



(1-116)

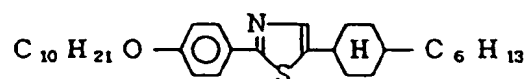
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(1-117)

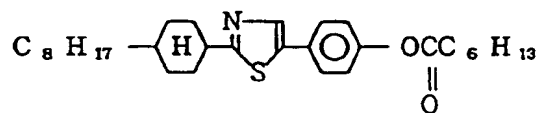
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(1-118)

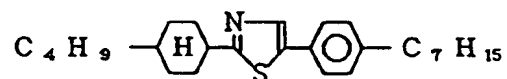
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(1-119)

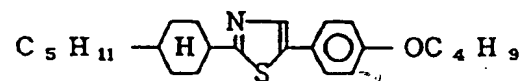
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(1-120)

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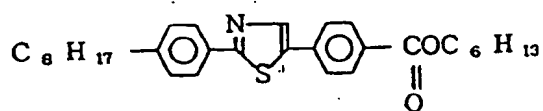


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(1-121)

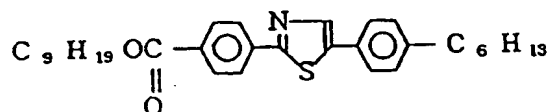
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(1-122)

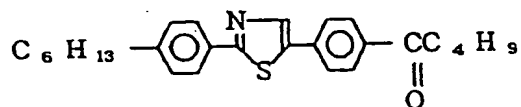
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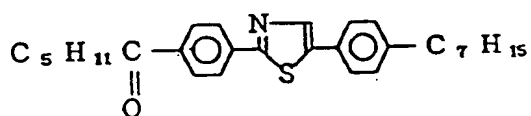
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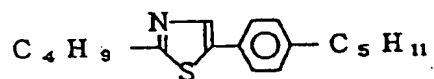
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(1-125)

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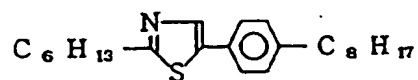
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(1-126)

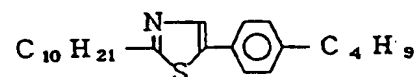
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(1-127)

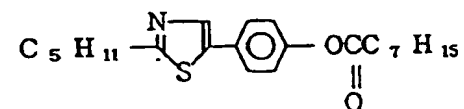
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(1-128)

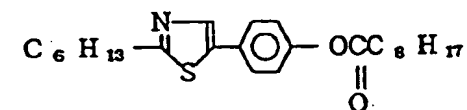
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(1-129)

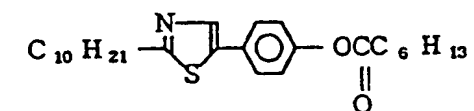
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(1-130)

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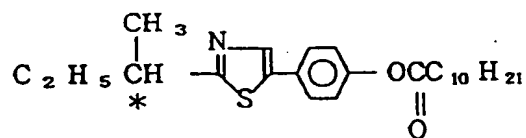


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(1-131)

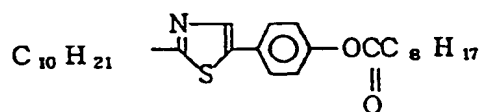
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(1-132)

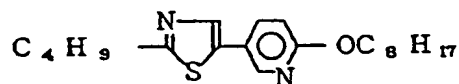
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(1-133)

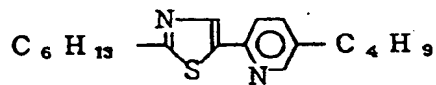
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(1-134)

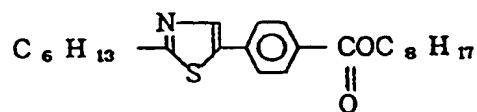
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(1-135)

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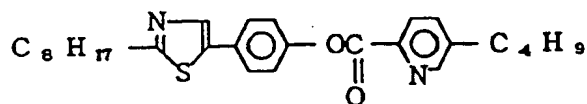


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(1-136)

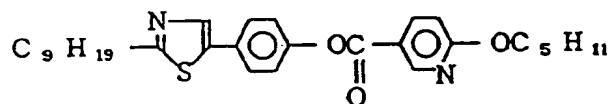
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(1-137)

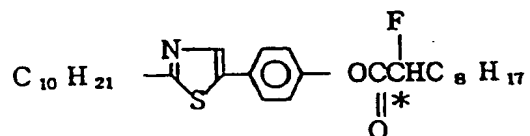
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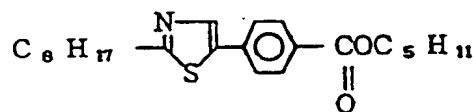
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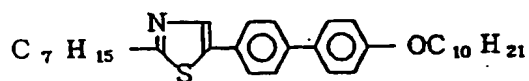
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(1-140)

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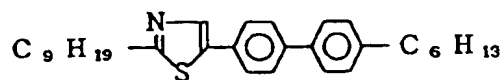
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(1-141)

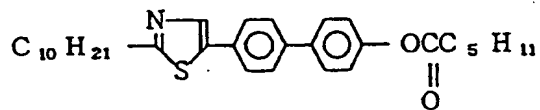
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(1-142)

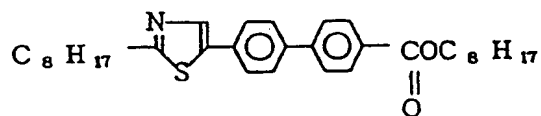
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(1-143)

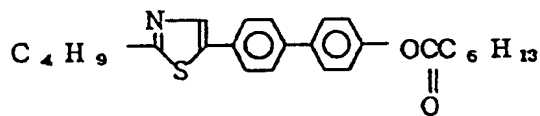
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(1-144)

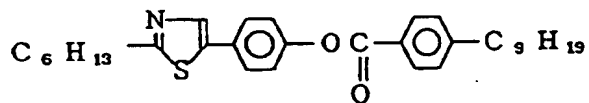
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(1-145)

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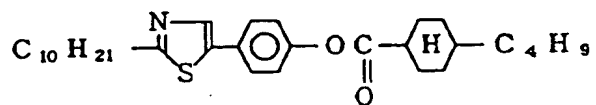


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(1-146)

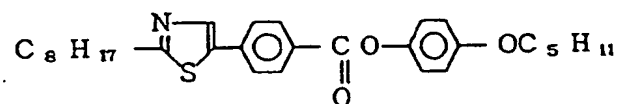
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(1-147)

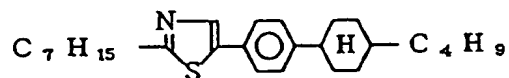
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(1-148)

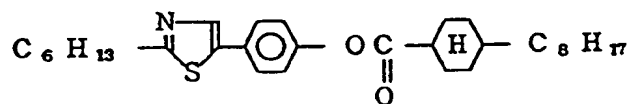
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(1-149)

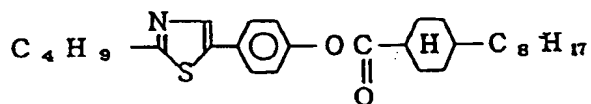
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(1-150)

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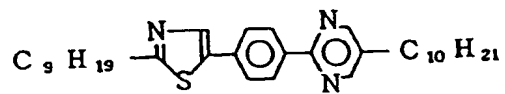


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(1-151)

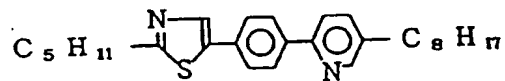
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(1-152)

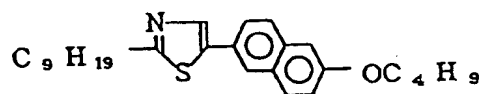
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(1-153)

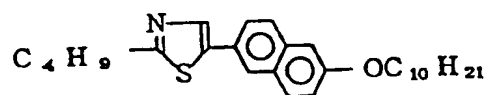
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(1-154)

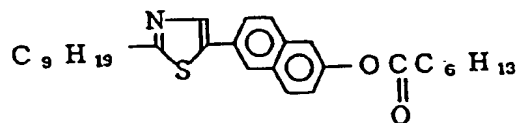
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(1-155)

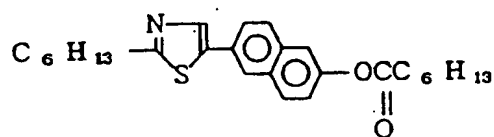
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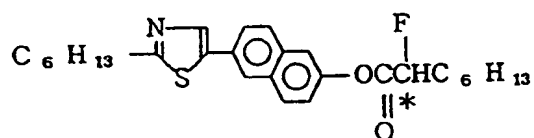
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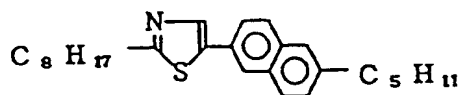
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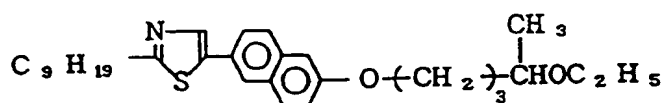
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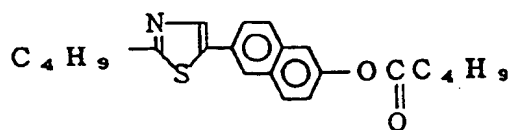
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(1-159)

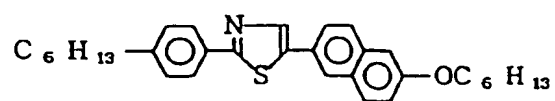


(1-160)



(1-161)

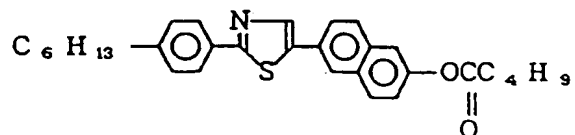
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(1-162)

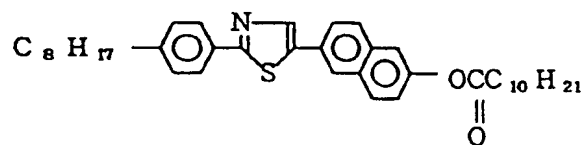
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(1-163)

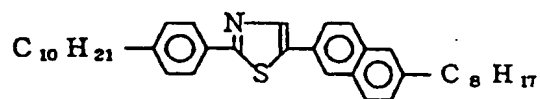
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(1-164)

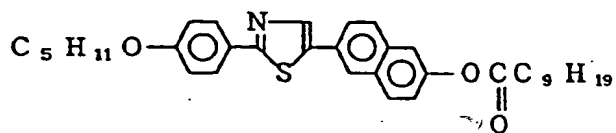
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(1-165)

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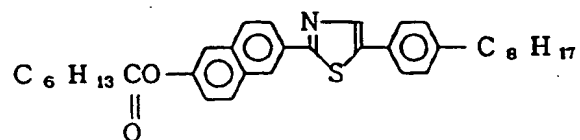


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(1-166)

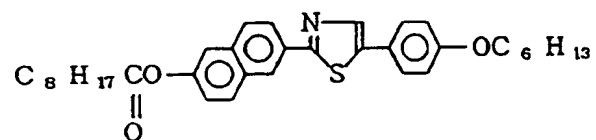
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(1-167)

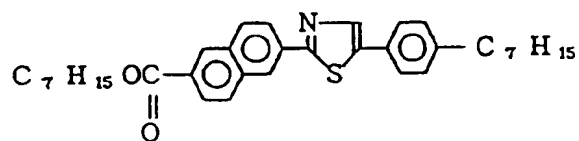
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(1-168)

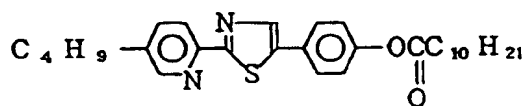
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(1-169)

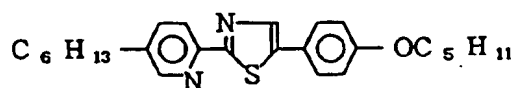
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(1-170)

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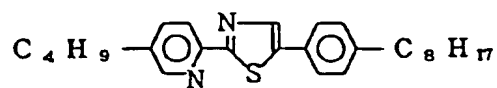


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(1-171)

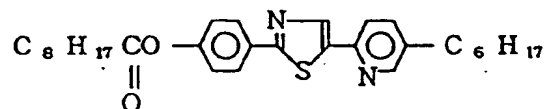
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(1-172)

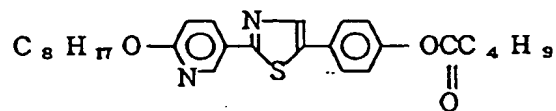
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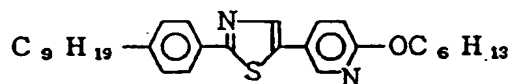
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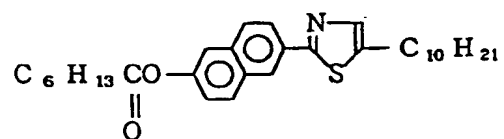
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(1-175)

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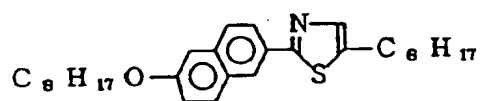


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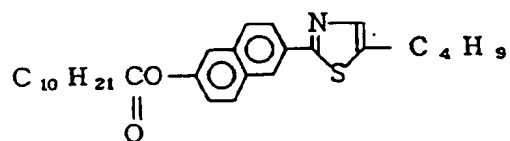
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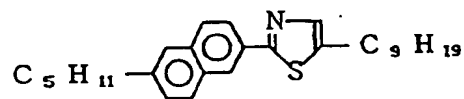
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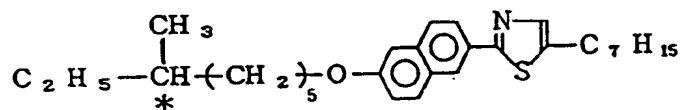
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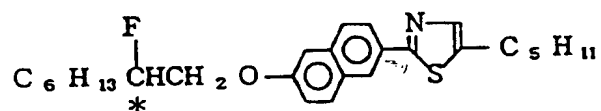
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(1-179)

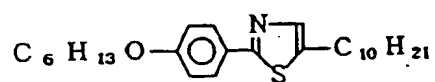


(1-180)



(1-181)

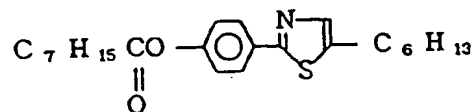
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(1-182)

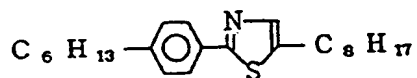
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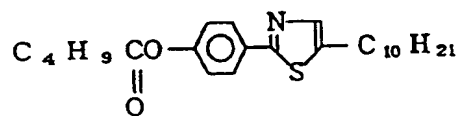
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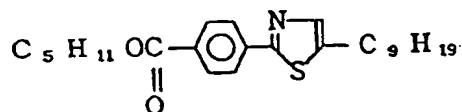
(1-184)



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(1-185)

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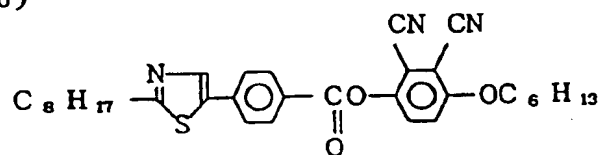
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(1-186)

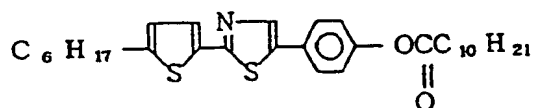
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(1-187)

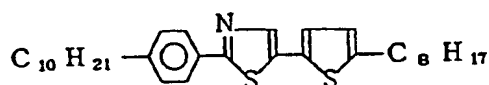
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(1-188)

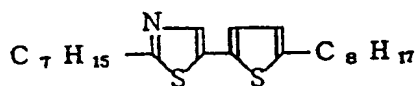
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(1-189)

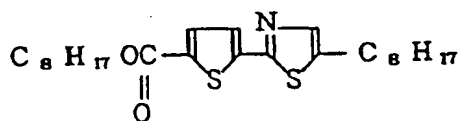
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(1-190)

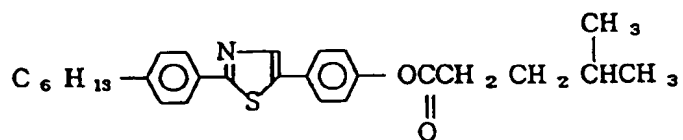
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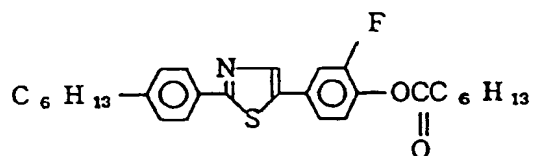
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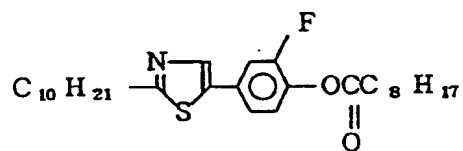
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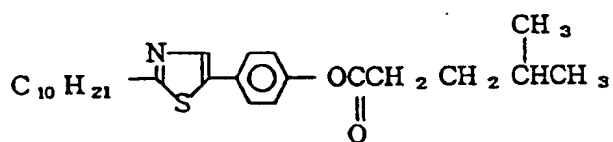
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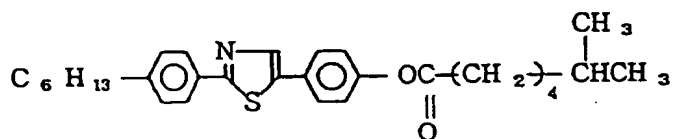
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(1-194)

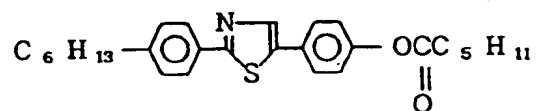


(1-195)



(1-196)

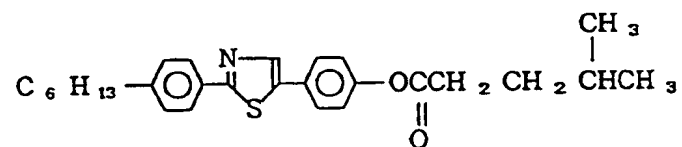
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(1-197)

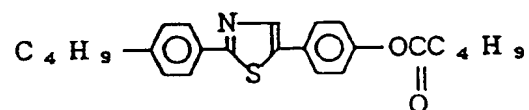
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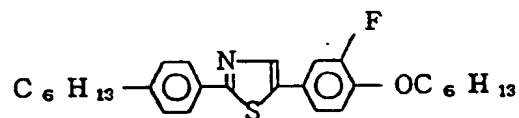
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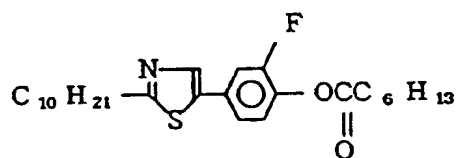
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(1-200)

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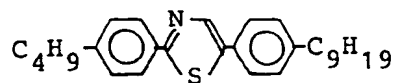
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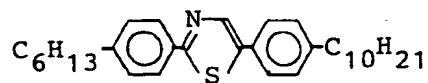
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(1-202)

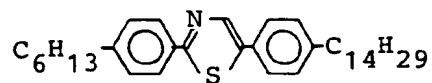
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(1-203)

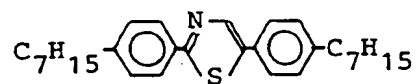
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(1-204)

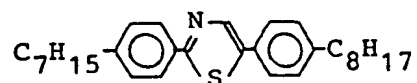
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(1-205)

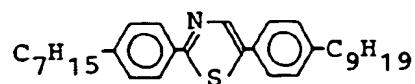
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(1-206)

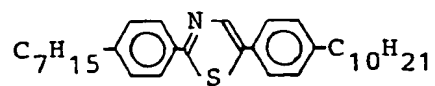
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(1-207)

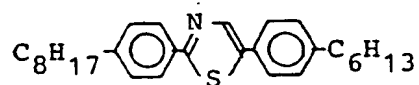
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(1-208)

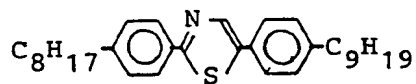
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(1-209)

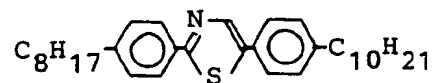
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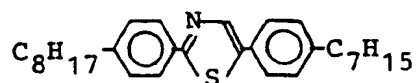
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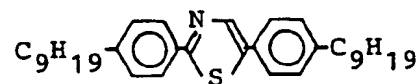
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(1-212)

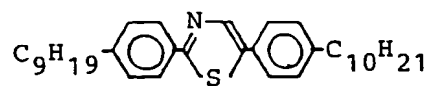
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(1-213)

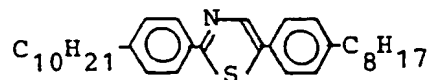
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(1-214)

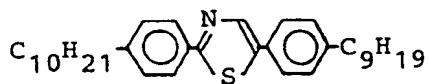
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(1-215)

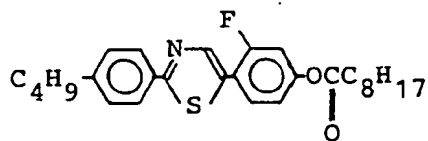
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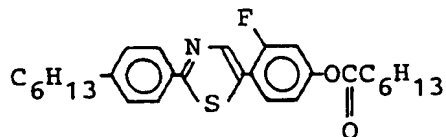
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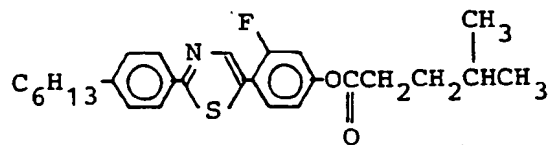
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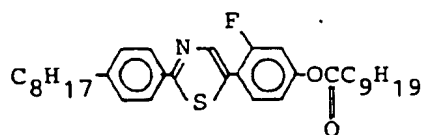
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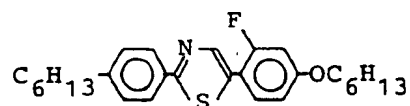


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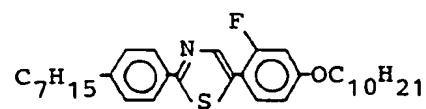
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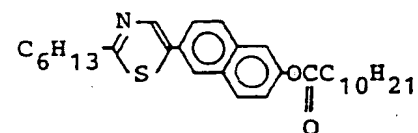
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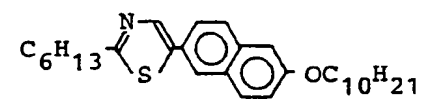
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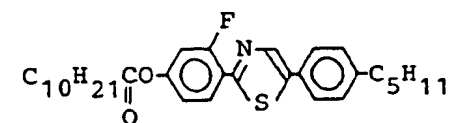
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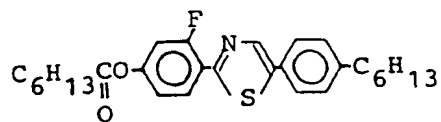
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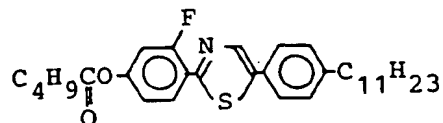
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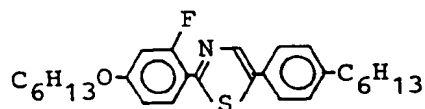
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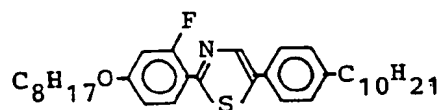
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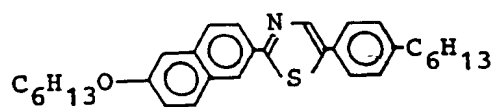
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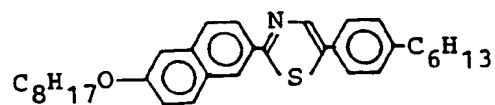
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(1-229)

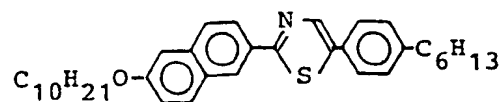


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(1-231)

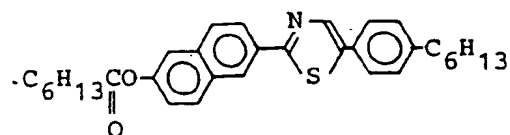
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(1-232)

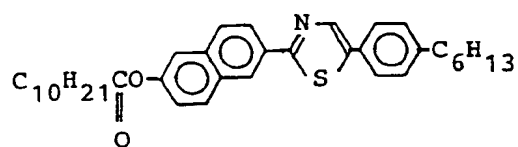
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(1-233)

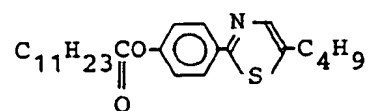
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(1-234)

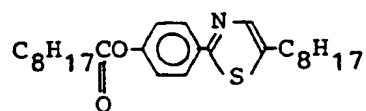
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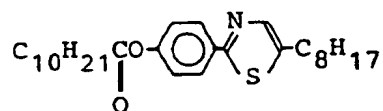
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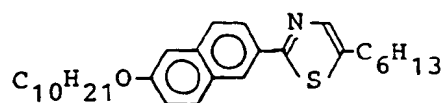
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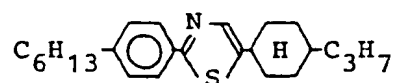
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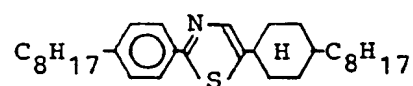
(1-237)



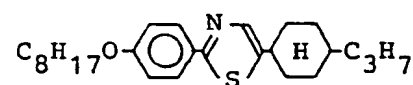
(1-238)



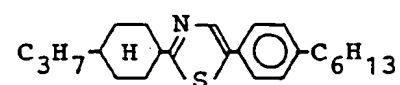
(1-239)



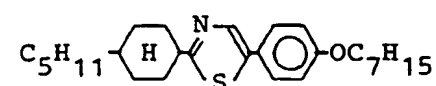
(1-240)



(1-241)

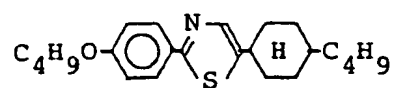


(1-242)



(1-243)

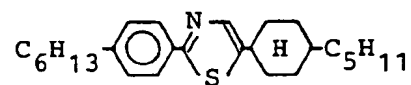
5



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(1-244)

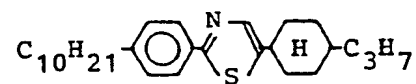
15



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(1-245)

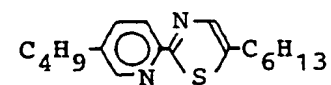
25



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(1-246)

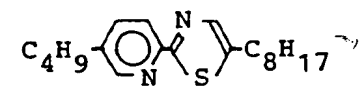
35



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(1-247)

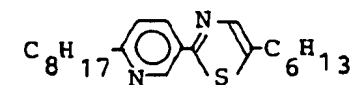
45



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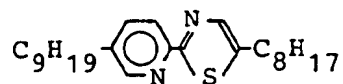
(1-248)

55



(1-249)

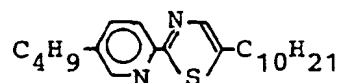
5



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(1-250)

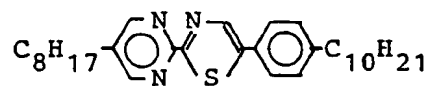
15



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(1-251)

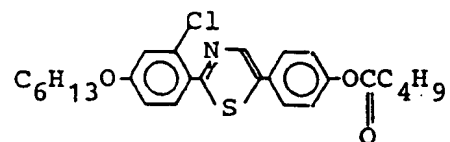
25



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(1-252)

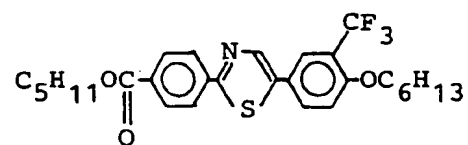
35



40

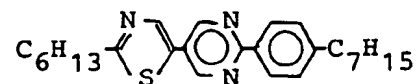
(1-253)

45



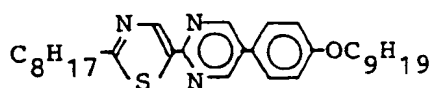
(1-254)

50

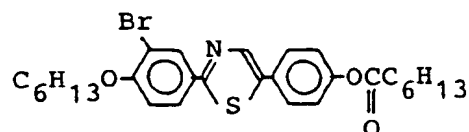


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(1-255)

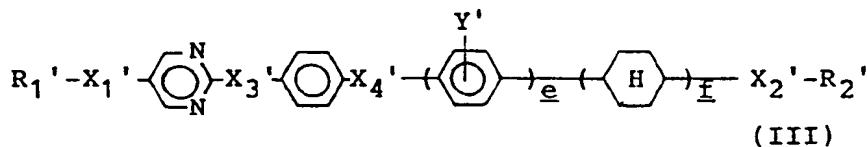


(1-256)

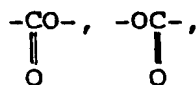


The liquid crystal composition according to the present invention may be obtained by mixing at least one species of the compound represented by the formula (I) and another mesomorphic compound in appropriate proportions. The liquid crystal composition according to the present invention may preferably be formulated as a liquid crystal composition capable of utilizing ferroelectricity, particularly a liquid crystal composition showing a chiral smectic phase.

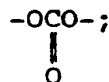
Specific examples of another mesomorphic compound as described above may include those denoted by the following formulas (III) to (XI).



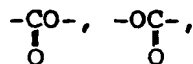
wherein e denotes 0 or 1 and f denotes 0 or 1 with proviso that $e + f = 0$ or 1; Y' denotes H, halogen, CH_3 or CF_3 ; X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,



-O- or

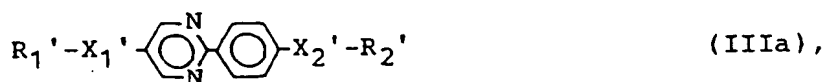


and X_3' and X_4' respectively denote a single bond,

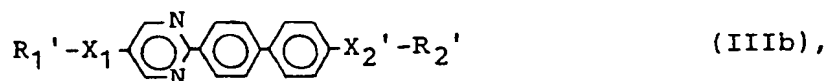


-OCH₂ or -CH₂O-

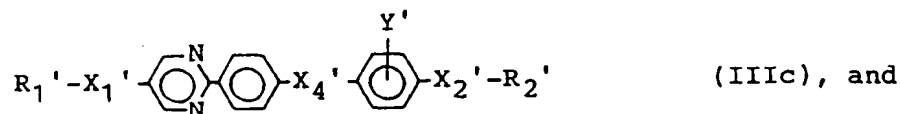
In the formula (III), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (IIIa) to (IIId):



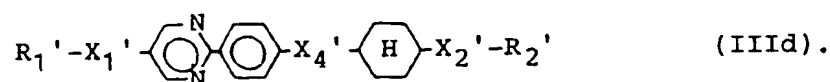
5



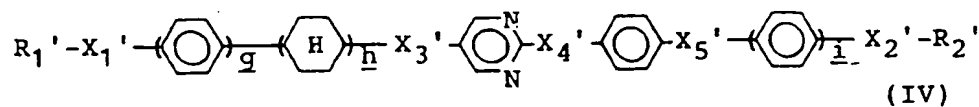
10



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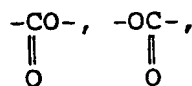
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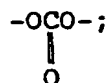
25

wherein \underline{g} and \underline{h} respectively denote 0 or 1 with proviso that $\underline{g} + \underline{h} = 1$; \underline{i} denotes 0 or 1; X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,

30



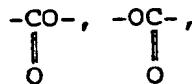
35 -O- or



40

and X_3' , X_4' and X_5' respectively denote a single bond,

45

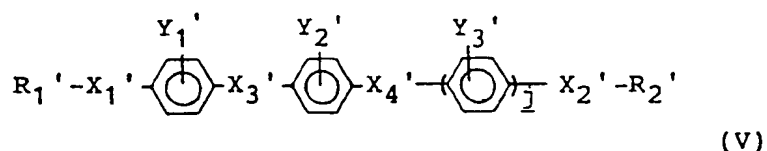
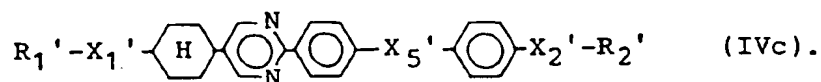
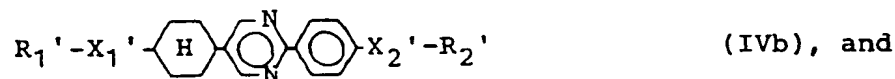
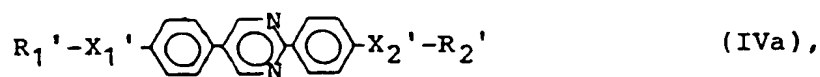


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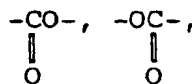
-CH₂O- or -OCH₂-.

In the formula (IV), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (IVa) to (IVc):

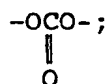
55



wherein j denotes 0 or 1; Y_1' , Y_2' and Y_3' respectively denote H, halogen, CH_3 or CF_3 ; X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,



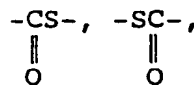
-O- and

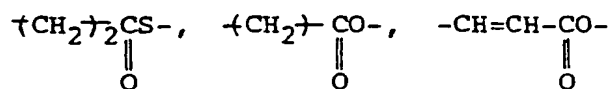


and X_3' and X_4' respectively denote a single bond,



$-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$, $-\text{OCH}_2-$, CH_2CH_2- ,



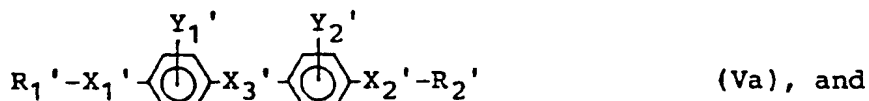


5

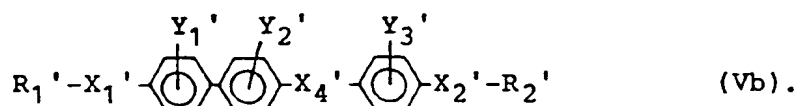
or -O-.

In the formula (V), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (Va) and (Vb):

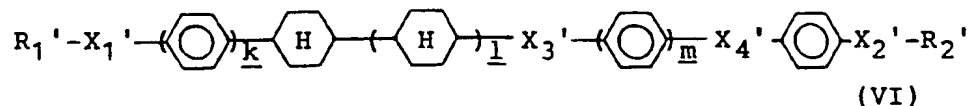
10



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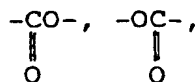


20



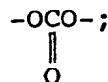
25 wherein \underline{k} , \underline{l} and \underline{m} respectively denote 0 or 1 with proviso that $\underline{k} + \underline{l} + \underline{m} = 0, 1 \text{ or } 2$; X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,

30

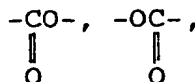


-O- or

35

40 and X_3' and X_4' respectively denote a single bond,

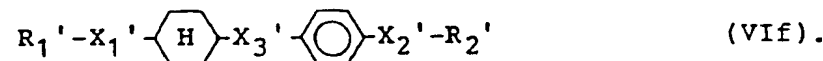
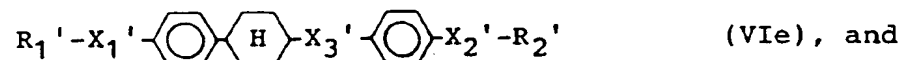
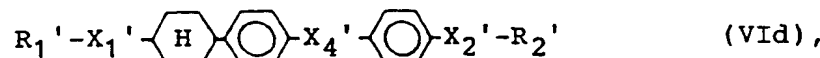
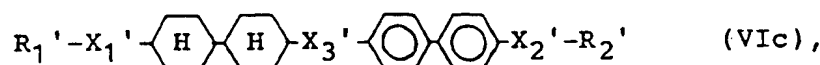
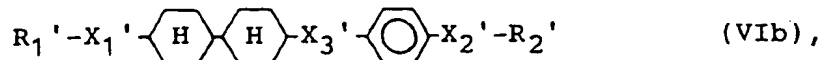
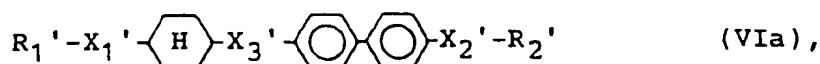
45

-CH₂O or -OCH₂-.

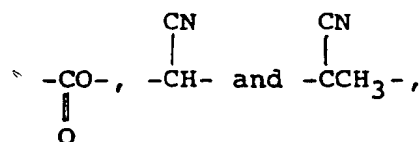
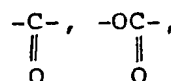
In the formula (VI), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (Via) to (Vif):

50

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Herein, R_1' and R_2' respectively denote a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 - 18 carbon atoms capable of including one or two or more non-neighboring methylene groups which can be replaced with -CH halogen- and capable of further including one or two or more non-neighboring methylene groups other than those directly connected to X_1' or X_2' which can be replaced with at least one species of -O-

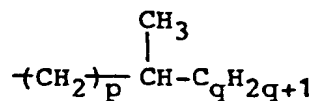


with proviso that R_1' and R_2' respectively do not connect to a ring structure when R_1' and R_2' respectively denote a halogenated alkyl group containing one methylene group replaced with -CH halogen-.

Further, preferred examples of R_1' and R_2' may respectively include those represented by the following groups (i) to (vii):

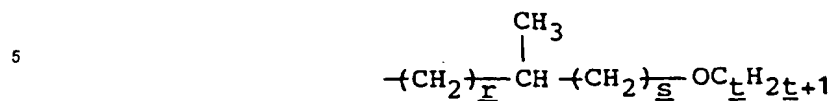
i) a linear alkyl group having 1 - 15 carbon atoms;

ii)



wherein p denotes an integer of 0 - 5 and q denotes an integer of 1 - 11 (optically active or inactive);

iii)



10 wherein \underline{r} denotes an integer of 0 - 6, \underline{s} denotes 0 or 1, and \underline{t} denotes an integer of 1 - 14 (optically active or inactive);

iv)



20 wherein \underline{u} denotes 0 or 1 and \underline{v} denotes an integer of 1 - 16;

v)



30 wherein \underline{w} denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive);

vi)



40 wherein \underline{A} denotes an integer of 0 - 2 and \underline{B} denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive); and

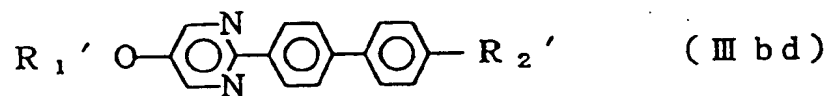
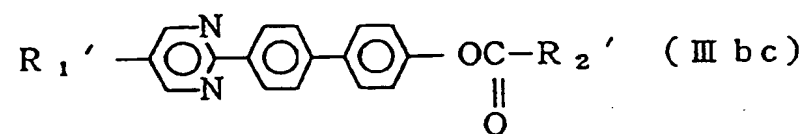
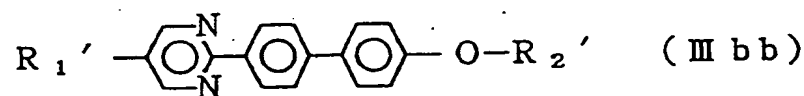
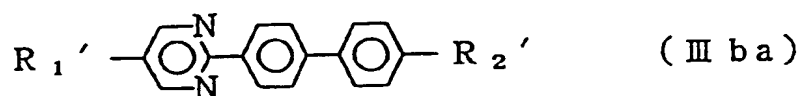
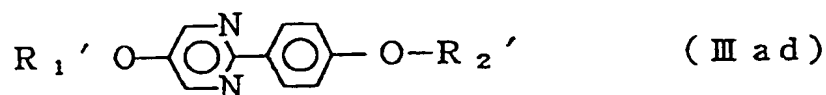
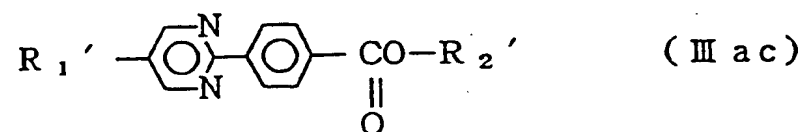
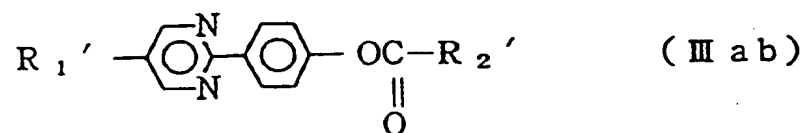
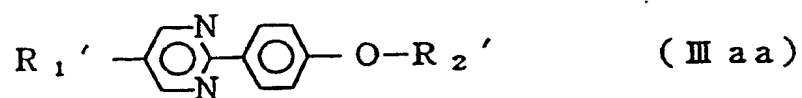
vii)

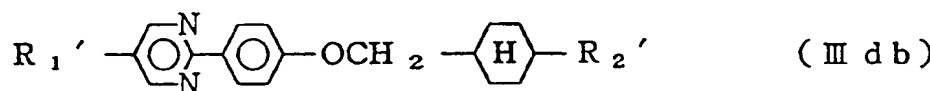
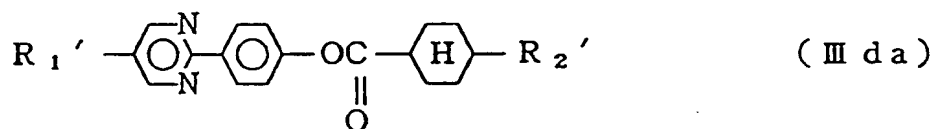
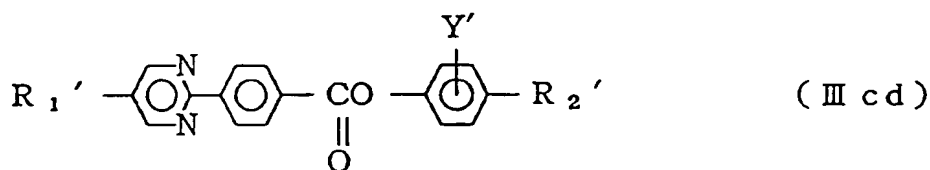
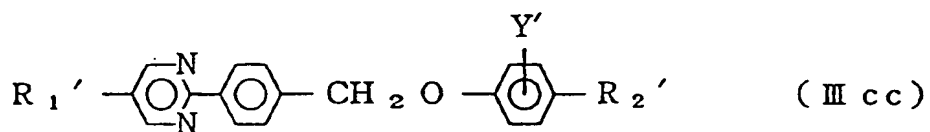
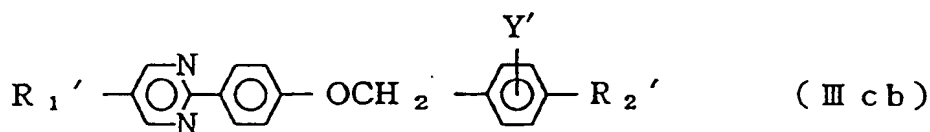
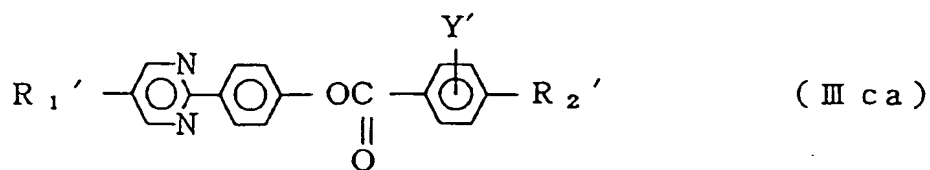


50 wherein \underline{C} denotes an integer of 0 - 2 and \underline{D} denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive).

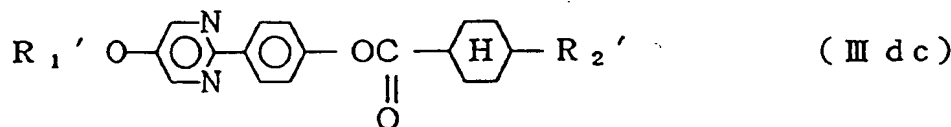
In the above-mentioned formula (III), more preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the formulas (IIIaa) to (IIIdc):

55



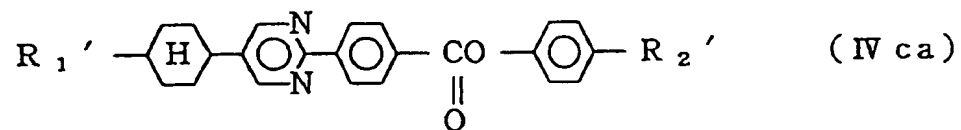
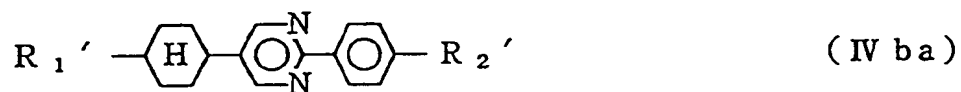
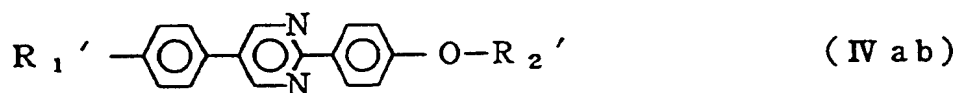
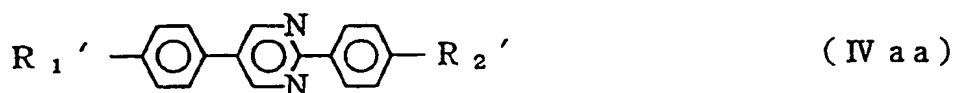


40 and

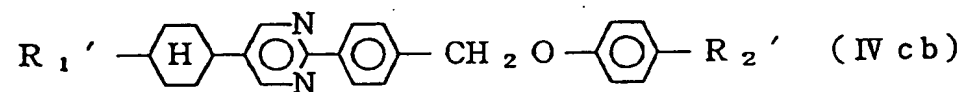


50 In the above-mentioned formula (IV), more preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the formulas (IVaa) to (IVcd):

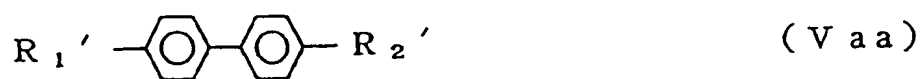
55



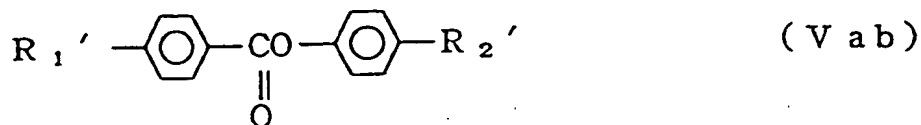
and



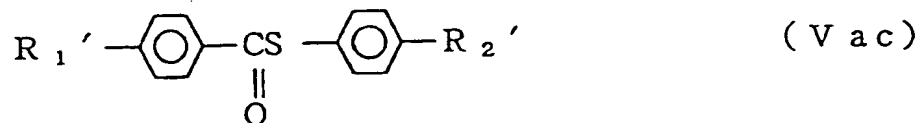
In the above-mentioned formula (V), more preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the formulas (Vaa) to (Vbf):



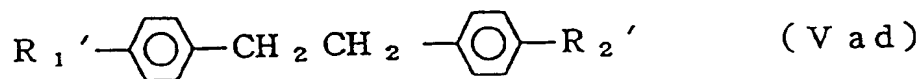
5



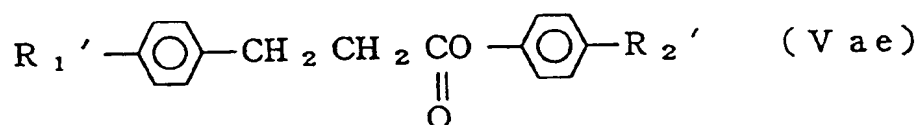
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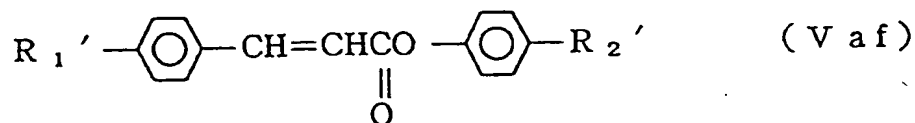


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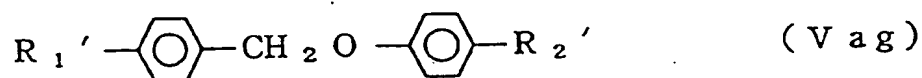


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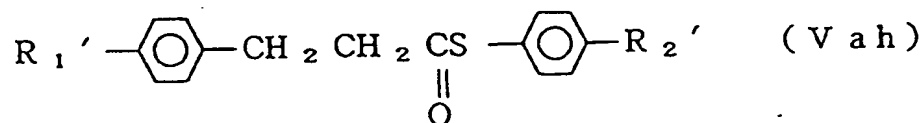
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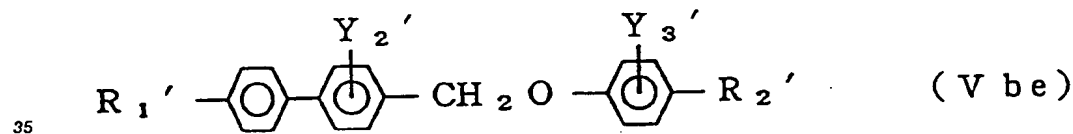
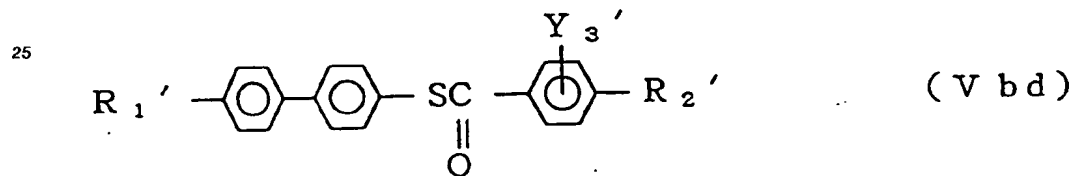
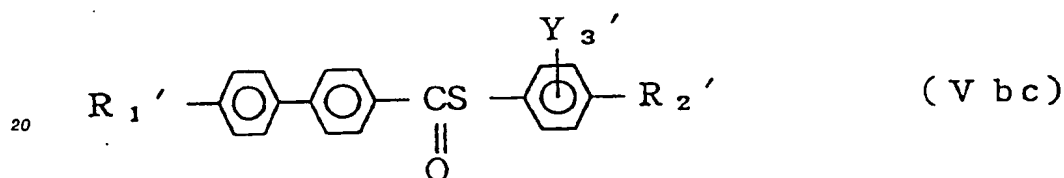
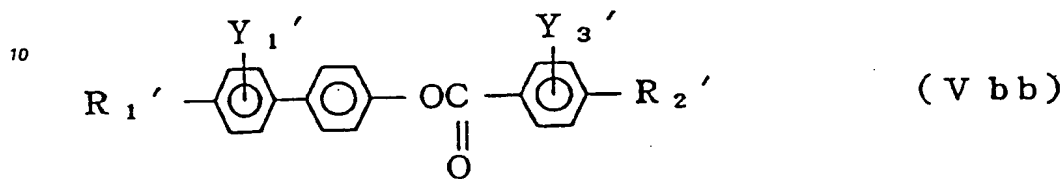
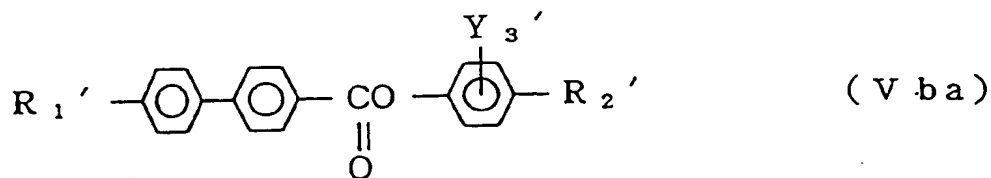
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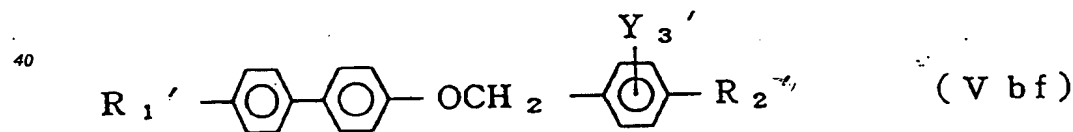
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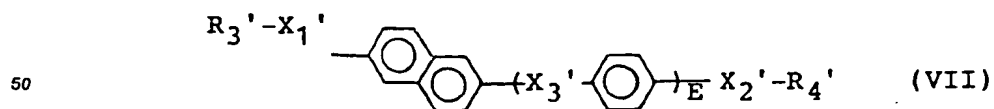
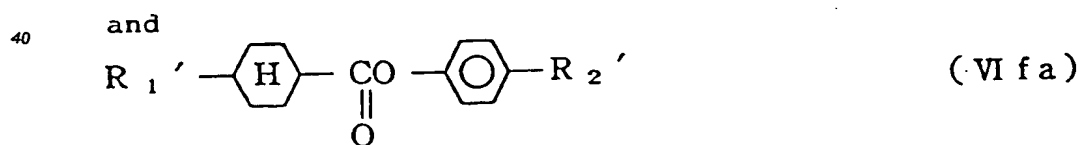
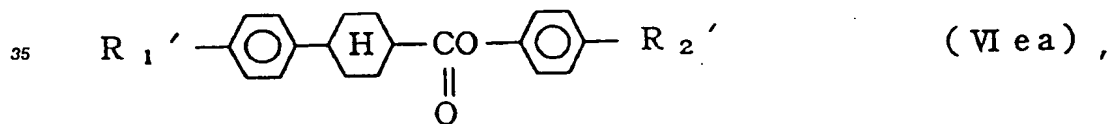
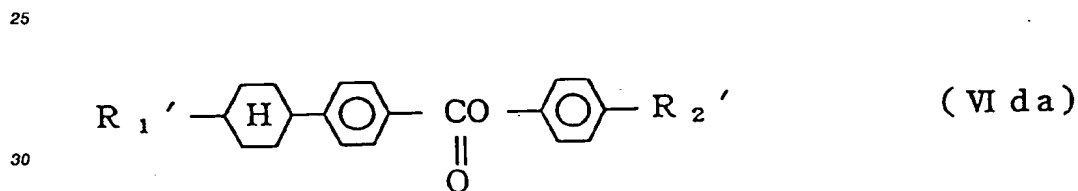
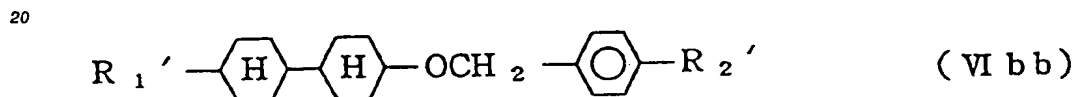
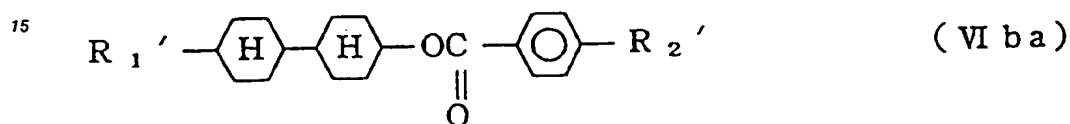
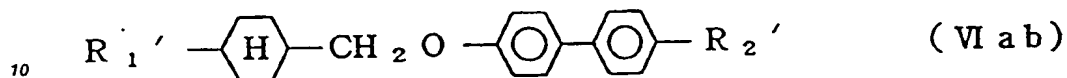
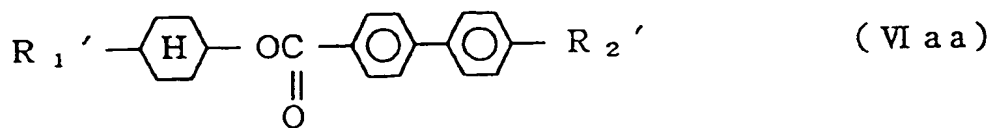
and



35 In the above-mentioned formula (VI), more preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the formulas (Viaa) to (Vifa):

40

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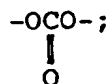


55

wherein \underline{E} denotes 0 or 1; X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,



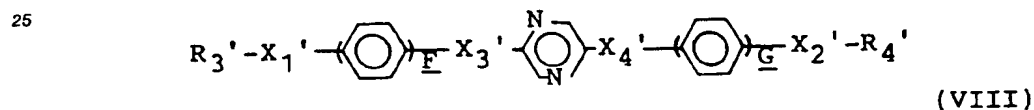
-O- or
10



15
and X_3' denotes a single bond,



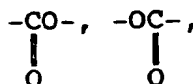
-CH₂O- or -OCH₂-.



30
wherein \underline{F} and \underline{G} respectively denote 0 or 1; X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,



or -O-;
40
and X_3' and X_4' respectively denote a single bond,

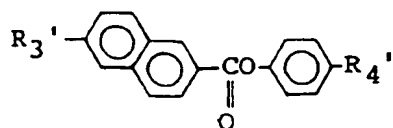


45
-CH₂O- or -OCH₂-.

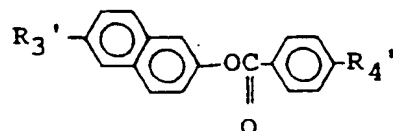
In the above formula (VII), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (VIIa) and (VIIb):

50

55

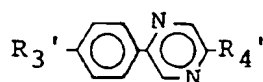


(VIIa), and

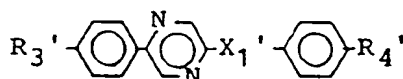


(VIIb).

In the above formula (VIII), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (VIIIa) and (VIIIb).

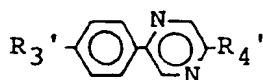


(VIIIa), and

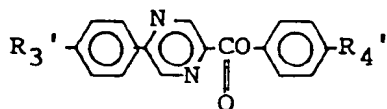


(VIIIb).

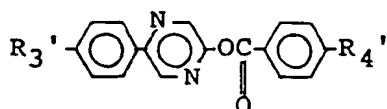
More preferred compounds of the formula (VIII) may include those represented by the formulas (VIIIaa) to (VIIIbb):



(VIIIaa),

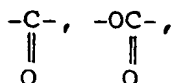


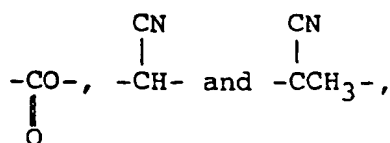
(VIIIba), and



(VIIIbb).

Herein, R_3' and R_4' respectively denote a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 - 18 carbon atoms capable of including one or two or more non-neighboring methylene groups which can be replaced with -CH halogen- and capable of further including one or two or more non-neighboring methylene groups other than those directly connected to X_1' or X_2' which can be replaced with at least one species of -O-,





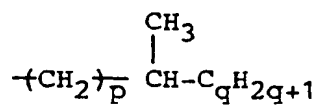
5

with proviso that R_3' and R_4' respectively do not connect to a ring structure when R_3' and R_4' respectively denote a halogenated alkyl group containing one methylene group replaced with -CH halogen-.

10 Further, preferred examples of R_3' and R_4' may respectively include those represented by the following groups (i) to (vii):

- i) a linear alkyl group having 1 - 15 carbon atoms;
ii)

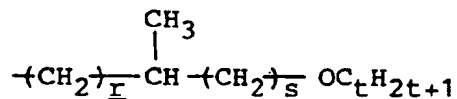
15



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wherein \underline{p} denotes an integer of 0 - 5 and \underline{q} denotes an integer of 1 - 11 (optically active or inactive);
iii)

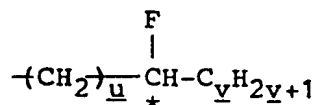
25



30

wherein \underline{r} denotes an integer of 0 - 6, \underline{s} denotes 0 or 1, and \underline{t} denotes an integer of 1 - 14 (optically active or inactive);
iv)

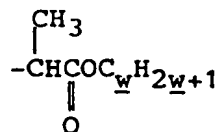
35



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wherein \underline{u} denotes an integer of 0 - 5 and \underline{v} denotes an integer of 1 - 16;
v)

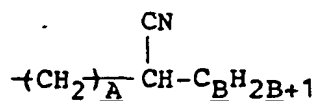
45



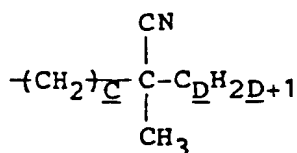
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wherein \underline{w} denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive);
vi)

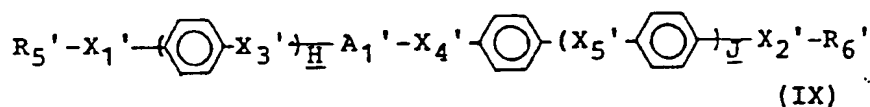
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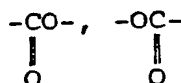
wherein A denotes an integer of 0 - 2 and B denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive); and
vii)



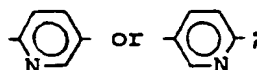
wherein C denotes an integer of 0 - 2 and D denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive).



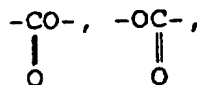
wherein H and J respectively denote 0 or 1 with proviso that H + J = 0 or 1; X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,



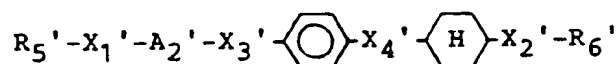
or -O-; A_1' denotes



and X_3' and X_4' respectively denote a single bond,



-CH₂O- or -OCH₂-.



(X)

wherein X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,



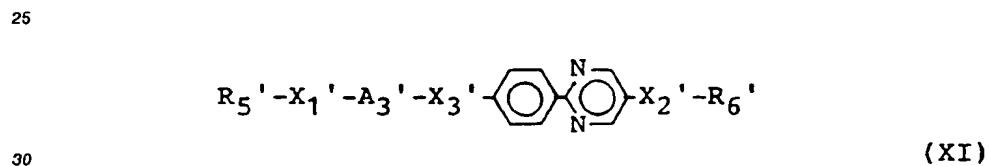
or -O-; A_2' denotes



15 and X_3' and X_4' respectively denote a single bond,



-CH₂O- or -OCH₂-.



wherein X_1' and X_2' respectively denote a single bond,



40 or -O-; A_3' denotes

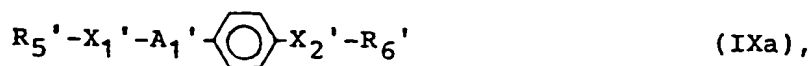


and X_3' respectively denotes a single bond,

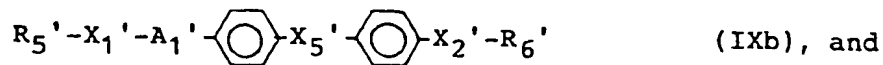


-CH₂O- or -OCH₂-.

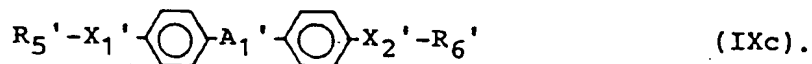
55 In the above formula (IX), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (IXa) to (IXc):



5

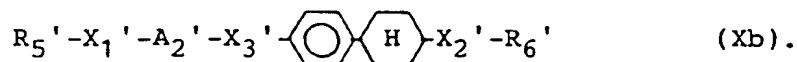
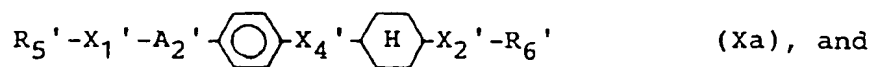


10



In the above formula (X), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following
15 formulas (Xa) and (Xb):

20



25

In the above-mentioned formula (IX), more preferred compounds thereof may include those represented
by the formulas (IXaa) to (IXcc):

30

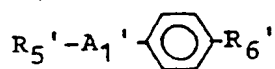
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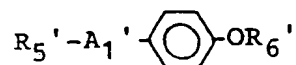
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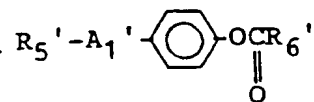
(IXaa),

5



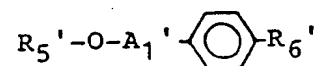
(IXab),

10



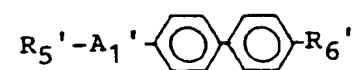
(IXac),

15

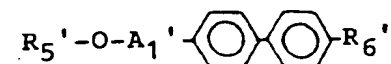


(IXad),

20

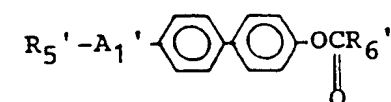


(IXba),



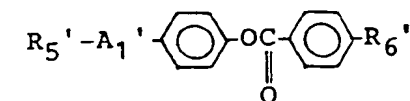
(IXbb),

25



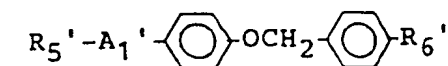
(IXbc),

30



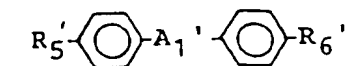
(IXbd),

35



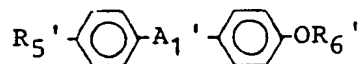
(IXbe),

40

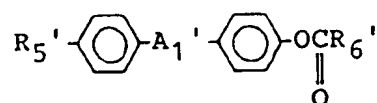


(IXca),

45



(IXcb), and

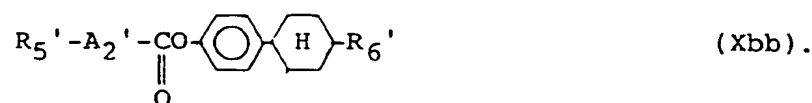
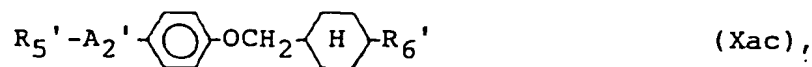
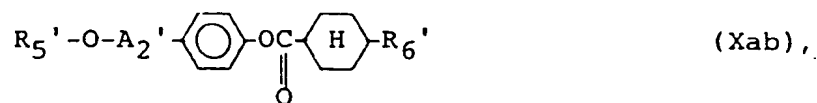
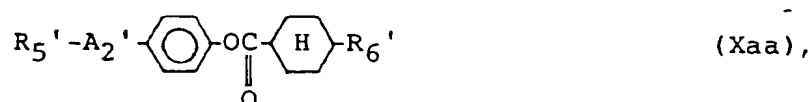


(IXcc).

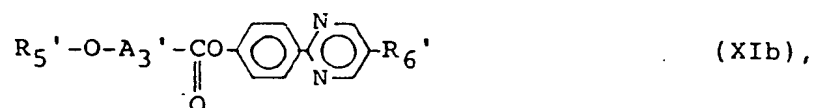
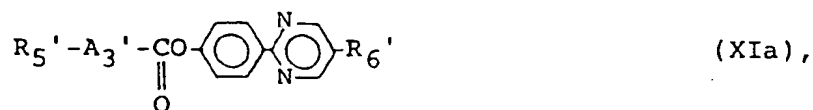
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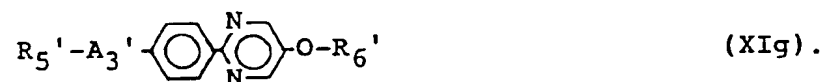
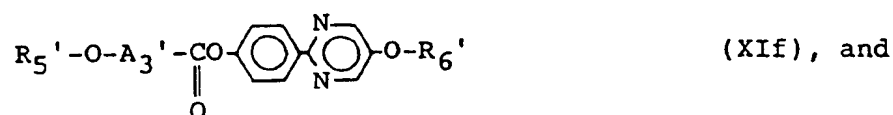
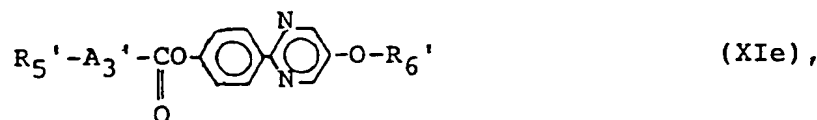
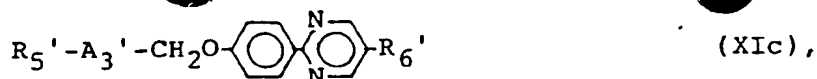
In the above-mentioned formula (X), more preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the formulas (Xaa) to (Xbb):

55

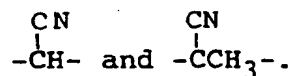
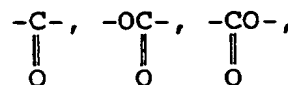


In the above formula (XI), preferred compounds thereof may include those represented by the following formulas (XIa) to (XIg):



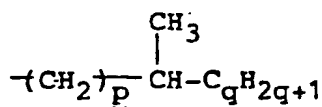


Herein, R_5' and R_6' respectively denote a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 - 18 carbon atoms capable of including one or two or more non-neighboring methylene groups other than those directly connected to X_1' or X_2' which can be replaced with at least one species of $-O-$.

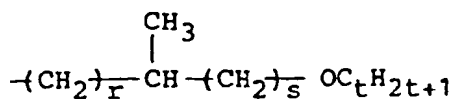


Further, preferred examples of R_5' and R_6' may respectively include those represented by the following groups (i) to (vi):

i) a linear alkyl group having 1 - 15 carbon atoms;

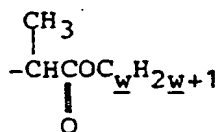


ii) wherein p denotes an integer of 0 - 5 and q denotes an integer of 1 - 11 (optically active or inactive);



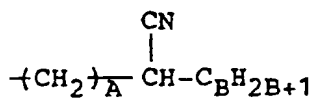
iii) wherein \underline{r} denotes an integer of 0 - 6, \underline{s} denotes 0 or 1, and \underline{t} denotes an integer of 1 - 14 (optically active or inactive);

iv)



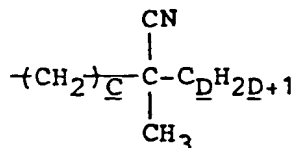
wherein \underline{w} denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive);

v)



wherein \underline{A} denotes an integer of 0 - 2 and \underline{B} denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive); and

vi)



wherein \underline{C} denotes an integer of 0 - 2 and \underline{D} denotes an integer of 1 - 15 (optically active or inactive).

In formulating the liquid crystal composition according to the present invention, it is desirable to mix 1 - 500 wt. parts, preferably 2 - 200 wt. parts, more preferably 3 - 80 wt. parts, of a compound represented by the formula (I) with 100 wt. parts of at least one species of another mesomorphic compound other than the compound represented by the formula (I).

Alternatively, the liquid crystal composition may desirably contain 1 - 80 wt. %, preferably 1 - 60 wt. %, more preferably 1 - 40 wt. % of a mesomorphic compound represented by the formula (I).

Further, when two or more species of the compounds represented by the formula (I) are used, the two or more species of the compounds of the formula (I) may be used in a total amount of 1 - 500 wt. parts, preferably 2 - 200 wt. parts, more preferably 3 - 80 wt. parts, per 100 wt. parts of at least one species of another mesomorphic compound other than the two or more species of the compounds of the formula (I).

Alternatively, the liquid crystal composition may desirably contain 1 - 80 wt. %, preferably 1 - 60 wt. %, more preferably 1 - 40 wt. %, of the two or more species of the compounds represented by the formula (I).

The liquid crystal device according to the present invention may preferably be prepared by heating the liquid crystal composition prepared as described above into an isotropic liquid under vacuum, filling a blank cell comprising a pair of oppositely spaced electrode plates with the composition, gradually cooling the cell to form a liquid crystal layer and restoring the normal pressure.

Figure 1 is a schematic sectional view of an embodiment of the liquid crystal device utilizing ferroelectricity prepared as described above for explanation of the structure thereof.

Referring to Figure 1, the liquid crystal device includes a liquid crystal layer 1 assuming a chiral smectic phase disposed between a pair of glass substrates 2 each having thereon a transparent electrode 3 and an insulating alignment control layer 4. Lead wires 6 are connected to the electrodes so as to apply a driving voltage to the liquid crystal layer 1 from a power supply 7. Outside the substrates 2, a pair of polarizers 8 are disposed so as to modulate incident light I_0 from a light source 9 in cooperation with the liquid crystal 1 to provide modulated light I.

Each of two glass substrates 2 is coated with a transparent electrode 3 comprising a film of In_2O_3 , SnO_2 or ITO (indium-tin-oxide) to form an electrode plate. Further thereon, an insulating alignment control layer 4 is formed by rubbing a film of a polymer such as polyimide with gauze or acetate fiber-planted cloth so as to align the liquid crystal molecules in the rubbing direction. Further, it is also possible to compose the alignment control layer of two layers, e.g., by first forming an insulating layer of an inorganic material, such as silicon nitride, silicon nitride containing hydrogen, silicon carbide, silicon carbide containing hydrogen, silicon oxide, boron nitride, boron nitride containing hydrogen, cerium oxide, aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide, titanium oxide, or magnesium fluoride, and forming thereon an alignment control layer of an organic insulating material, such as polyvinyl alcohol, polyimide, polyamide-imide, polyester-imide, polyparaxylylene, polyester, polycarbonate, polyvinyl acetal, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, polyamide, polystyrene, cellulose resin, melamine resin, urea resin, acrylic resin, or photoresist resin. Alternatively, it is also possible to use a single layer of inorganic insulating alignment control layer or organic insulating alignment control layer. An inorganic insulating alignment control layer may be formed by vapor deposition, while an organic insulating alignment control layer may be formed by applying a solution of an organic insulating material or a precursor thereof in a concentration of 0.1 to 20 wt. %, preferably 0.2 - 10 wt. %, by spinner coating, dip coating, screen printing, spray coating or roller coating, followed by curing or hardening under prescribed hardening condition (e.g., by heating). The insulating alignment control layer may have a thickness of ordinarily 30 Å - 1 micron, preferably 30 - 3000 Å, further preferably 50 - 1000 Å. The two glass substrates 2 with transparent electrodes 3 (which may be inclusively referred to herein as "electrode plates") and further with insulating alignment control layers 4 thereof are held to have a prescribed (but arbitrary) gap with a spacer 5. For example, such a cell structure with a prescribed gap may be formed by sandwiching spacers of silica beads or alumina beads having a prescribed diameter with two glass plates, and then sealing the periphery thereof with, e.g., an epoxy adhesive. Alternatively, a polymer film or glass fiber may also be used as a spacer. Between the two glass plates, a liquid crystal assuming a chiral smectic phase is sealed up to provide a liquid crystal layer 1 in a thickness of generally 0.5 to 20 microns, preferably 1 to 5 microns.

The liquid crystal provided by the composition of the present invention may desirably assume a SmC^* phase (chiral smectic C phase) in a wide temperature range including room temperature (particularly, broad in a lower temperature side) and also shows wide drive voltage margin and drive temperature margin when contained in a device.

Particularly, in order to show a good alignment characteristic to form a uniform monodomain, the liquid crystal may show a phase transition series comprising isotropic phase - Ch phase (cholesteric phase) - SmA phase (smectic A phase) - SmC^* phase (chiral smectic C phase) on temperature decrease.

The transparent electrodes 3 are connected to the external power supply 7 through the lead wires 6. Further, outside the glass substrates 2, polarizers 8 are applied. The device shown in Figure 1 is of a transmission type and is provided with a light source 9.

Figure 2 is a schematic illustration of a liquid crystal cell (device) utilizing ferroelectricity for explaining operation thereof. Reference numerals 21a and 21b denote substrates (glass plates) on which a transparent electrode of, e.g., In_2O_3 , SnO_2 , ITO (indium-tin-oxide), etc., is disposed, respectively. A liquid crystal of an SmC^* -phase (chiral smectic C phase) or SmH^* -phase (chiral smectic H phase) in which liquid crystal molecular layers 22 are aligned perpendicular to surfaces of the glass plates is hermetically disposed therebetween. Full lines 23 show liquid crystal molecules. Each liquid crystal molecule 23 has a dipole moment (P_1) 24 in a direction perpendicular to the axis thereof. The liquid crystal molecules 23 continuously form a helical structure in the direction of extension of the substrates. When a voltage higher than a certain threshold level is applied between electrodes formed on the substrates 21a and 21b, a helical structure of the liquid crystal molecule 23 is unwound or released to change the alignment direction of respective liquid crystal molecules 23 so that the dipole moments (P_1) 24 are all directed in the direction of the electric field. The liquid crystal molecules 23 have an elongated shape and show refractive anisotropy between the long axis and the short axis thereof. Accordingly, it is easily understood that when, for instance, polarizers arranged in a cross nicol relationship, i.e., with their polarizing directions crossing each other, are disposed on the upper and the lower surfaces of the glass plates, the liquid crystal cell thus arranged functions as a liquid crystal optical modulation device of which optical characteristics vary depending upon

the polarity of an applied voltage.

Further, when the liquid crystal cell is made sufficiently thin (e.g., less than about 10 microns), the helical structure of the liquid crystal molecules is unwound to provide a non-helical structure even in the absence of an electric field, whereby the dipole moment assumes either of the two states, i.e., Pa in an upper direction 34a or Pb in a lower direction 34b as shown in Figure 3, thus providing a bistable condition. When an electric field Ea or Eb higher than a certain threshold level and different from each other in polarity as shown in Figure 3 is applied to a cell having the above-mentioned characteristics by using voltage application means 31a and 31b, the dipole moment is directed either in the upper direction 34a or in the lower direction 34b depending on the vector of the electric field Ea or Eb. In correspondence with this, the liquid crystal molecules are oriented in either of a first stable state 33a and a second stable state 33b.

When the above-mentioned ferroelectric liquid crystal is used as an optical modulation element, it is possible to obtain two advantages. First is that the response speed is quite fast. Second is that the orientation of the liquid crystal shows bistability. The second advantage will be further explained, e.g., with reference to Figure 3. When the electric field Ea is applied to the liquid crystal molecules, they are oriented in the first stable state 33a. This state is stably retained even if the electric field is removed. On the other hand, when the electric field Eb of which direction is opposite to that of the electric field Ea is applied thereto, the liquid crystal molecules are oriented to the second stable state 33b, whereby the directions of molecules are changed. This state is similarly stably retained even if the electric field is removed. Further, as long as the magnitude of the electric field Ea or Eb being applied is not above a certain threshold value, the liquid crystal molecules are placed in the respective orientation states.

Based on the arrangement and data format comprising image data accompanied with scanning line address data and by adopting communication synchronization using a SYNC signal as shown in Figures 4 and 5, there is provided a liquid crystal display apparatus of the present invention which uses the liquid crystal device according to the present invention as a display panel portion.

Image data are generated in a graphic controller 102 in an apparatus body and transferred to a display panel 103 by signal transfer means shown in Figure 4 and 5. The graphic controller 102 principally comprises a CPU (central processing unit, hereinafter referred to as "GCPU") 112 and a VRAM (video-RAM, image data storage memory) 114 and is in charge of management and communication of image data between a host CPU 113 and the liquid crystal display apparatus (FLCD) 101. The control method according to the present invention is principally realized in the graphic controller 102.

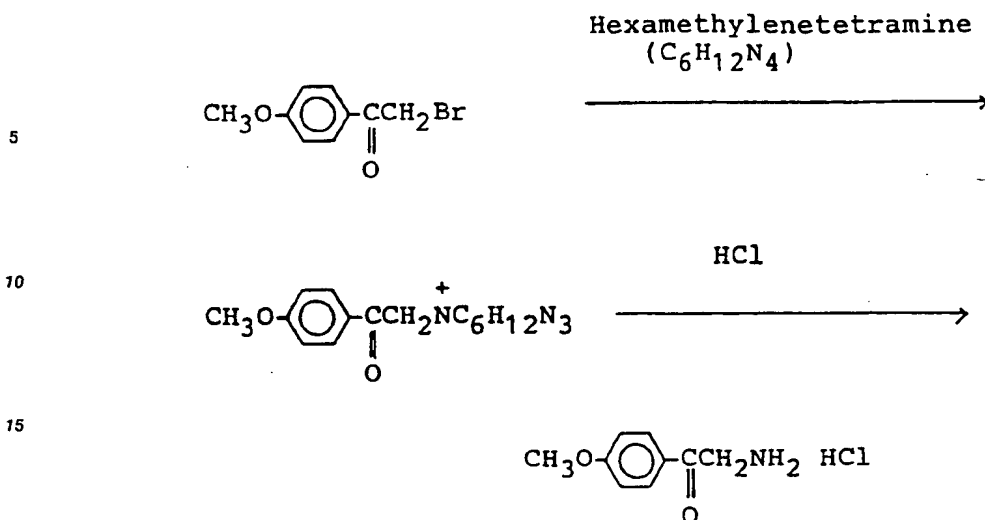
A light source is disposed at the back of the display panel 103.

Hereinbelow, the present invention will be explained more specifically with reference to examples. It is however to be understood that the present invention is not restricted to these examples.

Example 1

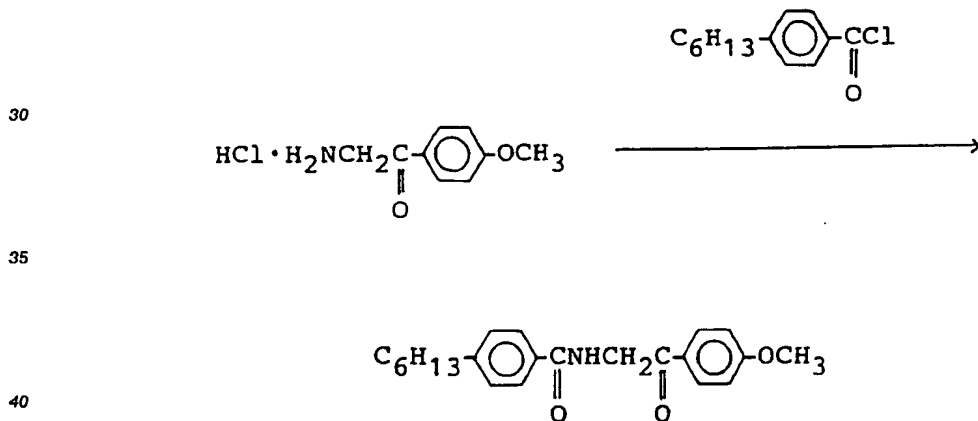
2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-pentanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-53) as synthesized through the following steps i) - v).

Step i) 4-methoxyphenacyl bromide was prepared by brominating 4-methoxyacetophenone with tetrabutylammonium tribromine in the same manner as in "Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.", 60, 1159 (1987).



20 4-methoxyphenacylamine hydrochloride was synthesized from 4-methoxyphenacyl bromide through the above reaction scheme according to a process shown in "Ber.", 44, 1542 (1911).

25 Step iii)

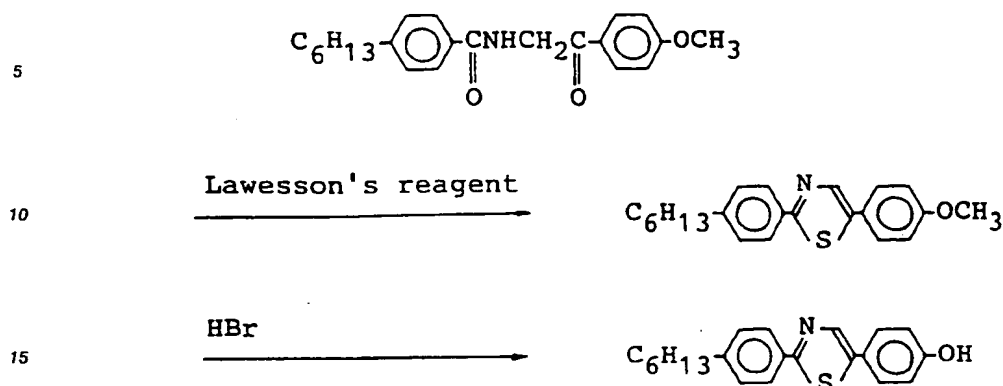


45 To a solution of 26.9 g (120 mM) of 4-hexylbenzoyl chloride in 206 ml of pyridine, 22.2 g (110 mM) of 4-methoxyphenacylamine hydrochloride was gradually added in 30 minutes under cooling and stirring at -10 to -5 °C, followed by stirring for 30 minutes at -10 to -5 °C and heat-refluxing of 1 hour under stirring. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and poured into 600 ml of cool water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, washed with water and recrystallized from

50 ethanol to obtain 19.6 g of 4-hexylbenzoyl-4'-methoxyphenacylamine (Yield: 50.5 %).

55

Step iv)

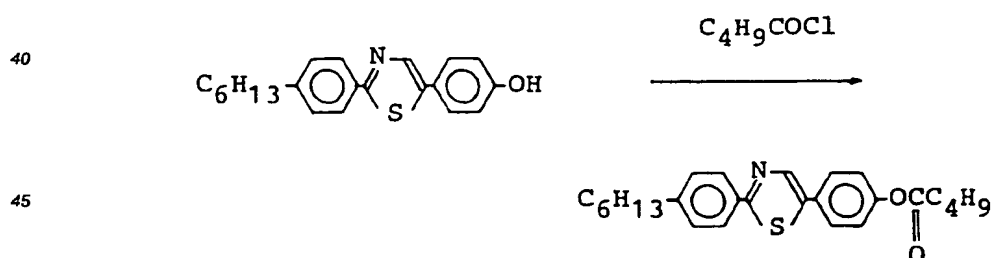


20 In a 300 ml-round-bottomed flask, 19.6 g (55.5 mM) of 4-hexylbenzoyl-4'-methoxyphenylamine, 24.3 g (60.1 mM) of Lawesson's reagent and 97 ml of tetrahydrofuran were placed, followed by heat-refluxing for 1 hour under stirring. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into a solution of 19 g of sodium hydroxide in 2 liters of water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, successively washed with water and ethanol and recrystallized from ethanol to obtain 15.9 g of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 82.9 %).

25 Then, in a 300 ml-three-necked flask, 13.9 g (39.3 mM) of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiazole, 76.5 ml of acetic acid and 69.5 ml of 47 %-hydrobromic acid were placed, followed by heat-stirring for 16 hours at 100 - 110 °C. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into cool water, followed by extraction with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was successively washed with water, 5 %-sodium hydrogenecarbonate aqueous solution and water, followed by distilling-off of the solvent under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in a mixture solvent of ethanol/chloroform = 1/1, followed by decolorization with activated carbon and distilling-off of the solvent under reduced pressure. The resultant residue was recrystallized two times from toluene to obtain 10.0 g of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 75.8 %).

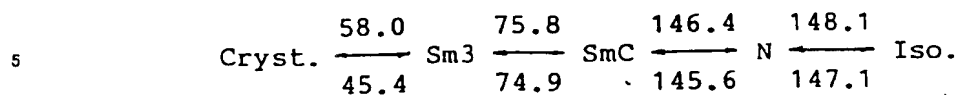
35

Step v)

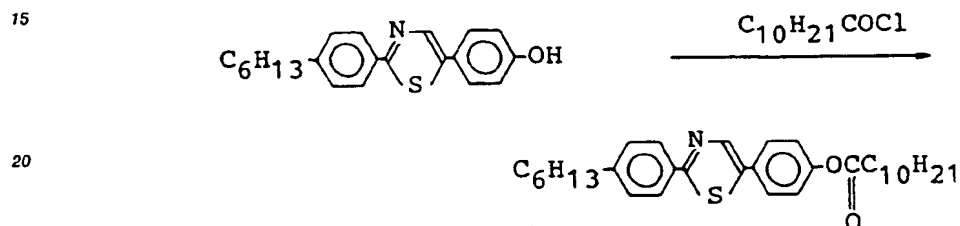
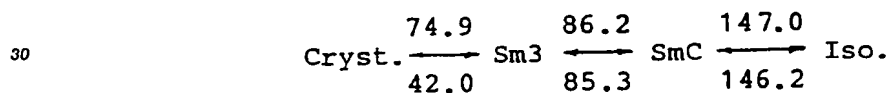


50

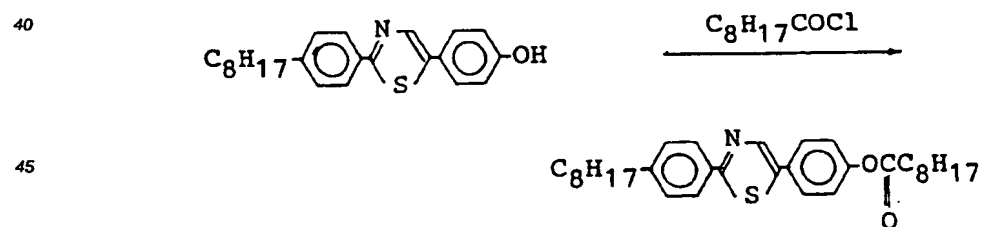
55 To a solution of 0.60 g (1.78 mM) of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole in 10 ml of pyridine, 0.36 ml (3.03 mM) of pentanoyl chloride was added on an ice water bath under stirring, followed by further stirring for 2 hours at room temperature. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into 100 ml of ice water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration and dissolved in toluene, followed by drying with anhydrous sodium sulfate and distilling-off of the solvent. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: toluene) and recrystallized from a mixture solvent of toluene-methanol to obtain 0.64 g of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-pentanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 85.4 %).

Phase transition temperature (°C)10 Example 4

2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-undecanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-57) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 2 (Yield: 69.0 %).

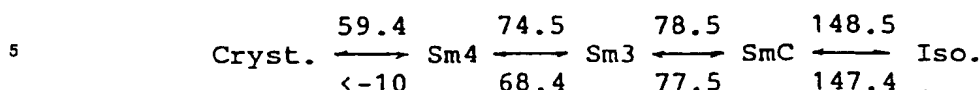
25 Phase transition temperature (°C)35 Example 5

2-(4-octylphenyl)-5-(4-nonanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-63) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 1 (Yield: 84.3 %).



50

55

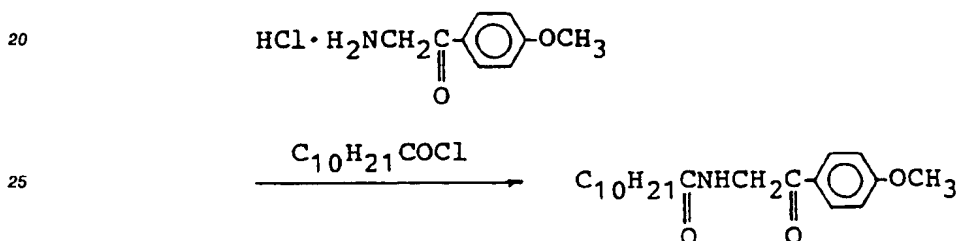
Phase transition temperature (°C)

10 Sm4: smectic phase of higher order than SmA and SmC (un-identified)

Example 6

15 2-decyl-5-(4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-130) was synthesized through the following steps i) - iii).

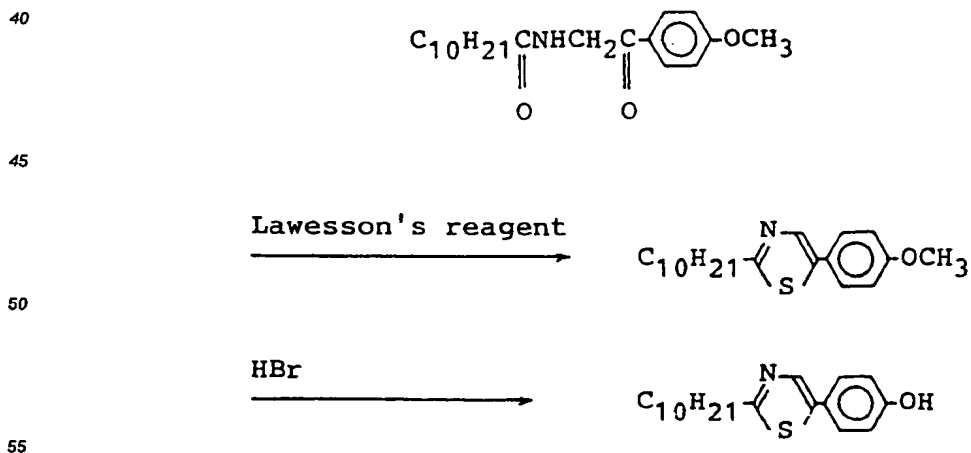
Step i)



30 To a solution of 22.0 g (108 mM) of undecanoyl chloride in 185 ml of pyridine, 22.2 g (110 mM) of 4-methoxyphenacylamine hydrochloride was gradually added in 30 minutes under cooling and stirring below -5 °C, followed by stirring for 30 minutes below -5 °C and heat-refluxing of 1 hour under stirring. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and poured into 1 liter of cool water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, washed with water and recrystallized from ethanol to obtain 13.9 g of decanoyl-4-methoxyphenacylamine (Yield: 38.8 %).

35

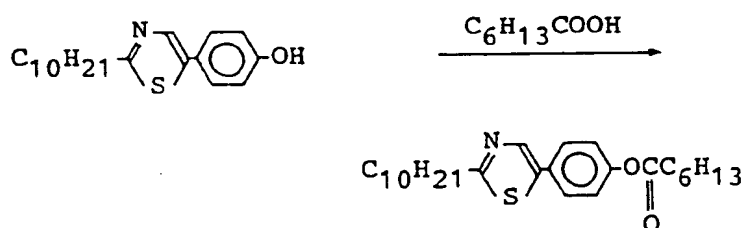
Step ii)



In a 200 ml-round-bottomed flask, 13.9 g (41.7 mM) of decanoyl-4-methoxyphenylamine, 18.3 g (45.2 mM) of Lawesson's reagent and 73 ml of tetrahydrofuran were placed, followed by heat-refluxing for 1 hour under stirring. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into a solution of 14.4 g of sodium hydroxide in 1.5 liters of water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, washed with water and recrystallized from ethanol to obtain 11.6 g of 2-decyl-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 83.9 %).

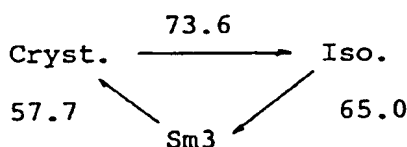
Then, in a 500 ml-three-necked flask, 11.6 g (35.0 mM) of 2-decyl-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiazole, 93 ml of acetic acid and 102 ml of 47 %-hydrobromic acid were placed, followed by heat-stirring for 16 hours at 100 - 110 °C. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into cool water, followed by extraction with benzene. The organic layer was successively washed with water, 5 %-sodium hydrogenecarbonate aqueous solution and water, followed by distilling-off of the solvent under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: chloroform) and recrystallized from toluene to obtain 7.0 g of 2-decyl-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 63.1 %).

Step iii)



In a 50 ml-round-bottomed flask, 0.60 g (1.89 mM) of 2-decyl-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole, 0.28 ml (1.97 mM) of heptanoic acid and 15 ml of dichloromethane were placed and mixed. To the solution, 0.39 g (1.89 mM) of N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide and 0.03 g of 4-pyrrolidinopyridine were successively added under stirring at room temperature, followed by further stirring for 2 hours at room temperature. After stirring, the mixture was left standing overnight at room temperature to precipitate N,N'-dicyclohexylurea. The resultant N,N'-dicyclohexylurea was filtered off and the solvent of the filtrate was distilled-off under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: toluene) and recrystallized from acetone to obtain 0.62 g of 2-decyl-5-(4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 76.4 %).

Phase transition temperature (°C)

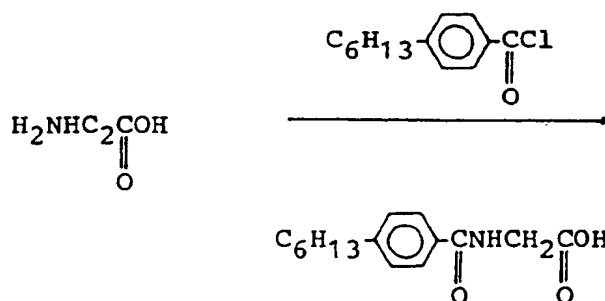


Example 7

2-decyl-5-(4-nonanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-132) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 6 (Yield: 34.9 %).

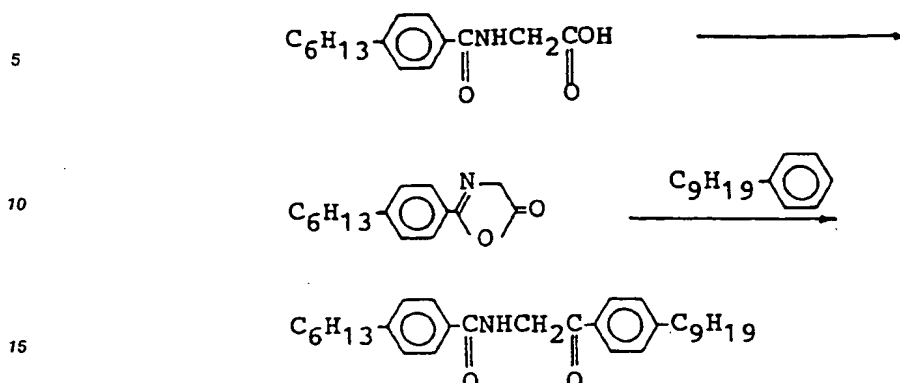
$$\text{Cryst.} \xrightleftharpoons[73.8]{77.8} \text{Iso.}$$

Step i)



In a 200 ml-three-necked flask, 3.34 g (44.5 mM) of glycine, 0.89 g (22.3 mM) of sodium hydroxide and 16.7 ml of distilled water were placed and mixed. To the solution, 16.7 ml of dioxane was added. To the resultant mixture, a solution of 0.89 g (22.3 mM) of sodium hydroxide in 8.4 ml of distilled water and a solution of 5.00 g (22.2 mM) of 4-hexylbenzoyl chloride in 33.4 ml of dioxane were gradually added simultaneously at -1 to 3 °C by dropping funnels, respectively, followed by stirring for 30 minutes at 1 - 2 °C. After the reaction, 2.3 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid was added to the reaction mixture to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration and washed with water, followed by drying and recrystallization from ethyl acetate to obtain 4.86 g of N-(4-hexylbenzoyl)glycine (Yield: 82.9 %).

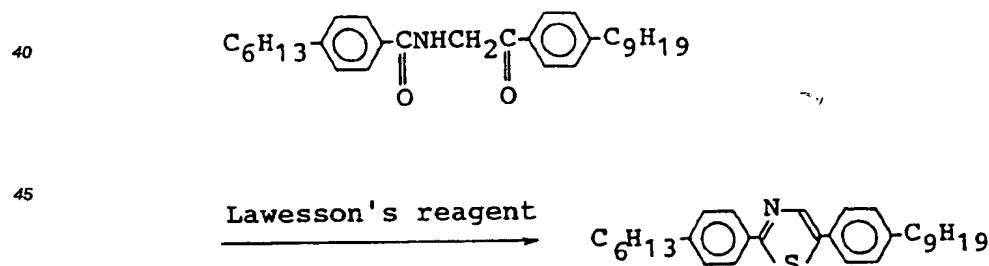
Step ii)



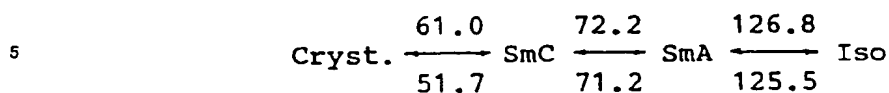
20 In a 50 ml-three-necked flask, 1.00 g (3.80 mM) of N-(4-hexylbenzoyl)glycine and 19 ml of dry benzene were placed. To the mixture, 0.53 ml (3.81 mM) of triethylamine was added at room temperature under stirring, followed by addition of 0.37 ml (3.87 mM) of ethyl chloroformate and further stirring for 20 minutes at room temperature to precipitate triethylamine hydrochloride. The resultant hydrochloride was filtered off and the solvent of the filtrate was distilled off. The residue was dried under reduced pressure to obtain 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-oxazolone.

25 Then, in a 50 ml-three-necked flask, 4 ml of dry nonylbenzene was placed and 1.52 g (11.4 mM) of powdered anhydrous aluminum chloride was added thereto on an ice bath under stirring. To the mixture, a solution of the above-prepared 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-oxazolone in dry nonylbenzene was gradually added on the ice bath under stirring. After the addition, the ice bath was removed, followed by stirring for 1.5 hours at room temperature. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into a mixture of 30 g of ice and 8.4 ml of hydrochloric acid, followed by addition of 100 ml of ethyl acetate and stirring at room temperature. The organic layer was washed with water and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, followed by distilling-off of the solvent under reduced pressure. Then, hexane was added to the residue to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration and washed with hexane to obtain 0.71 g of 4-hexylbenzoyl-4'-nonylphenylamine (Yield: 41.6 %).

Step iii)



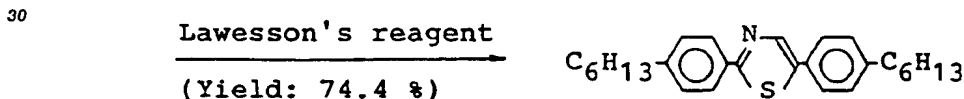
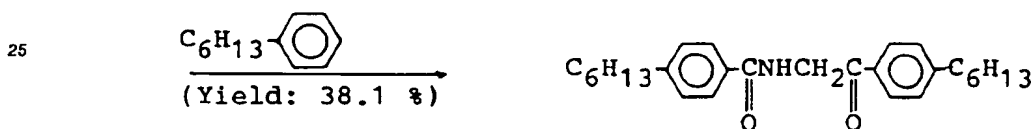
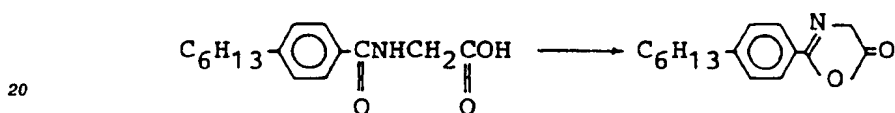
50 In a 30 ml-round-bottomed flask, 0.65 g (1.45 mM) of 4-hexylbenzoyl-4'-nonylphenylamine, 0.62 g (1.53 mM) of Lawesson's reagent and 10 ml of tetrahydrofuran were placed, followed by heat-refluxing for 55 min. under stirring. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into a solution of 0.46 g of sodium hydroxide in 100 ml of ice water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration and dissolved in toluene, followed by washing with water, drying with anhydrous sodium sulfate and distilling-off of the solvent. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography and recrystallized two times from a mixture solvent of toluene-methanol to obtain 0.37 g of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-nonylphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 57.2 %).

Phase transition temperature (°C)

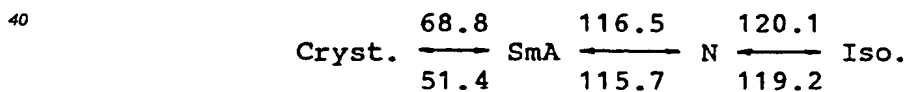
10 SmA: smectic A phase

Example 9

15 0.74 g of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-9) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 8 with the yields of respective steps shown below.



35

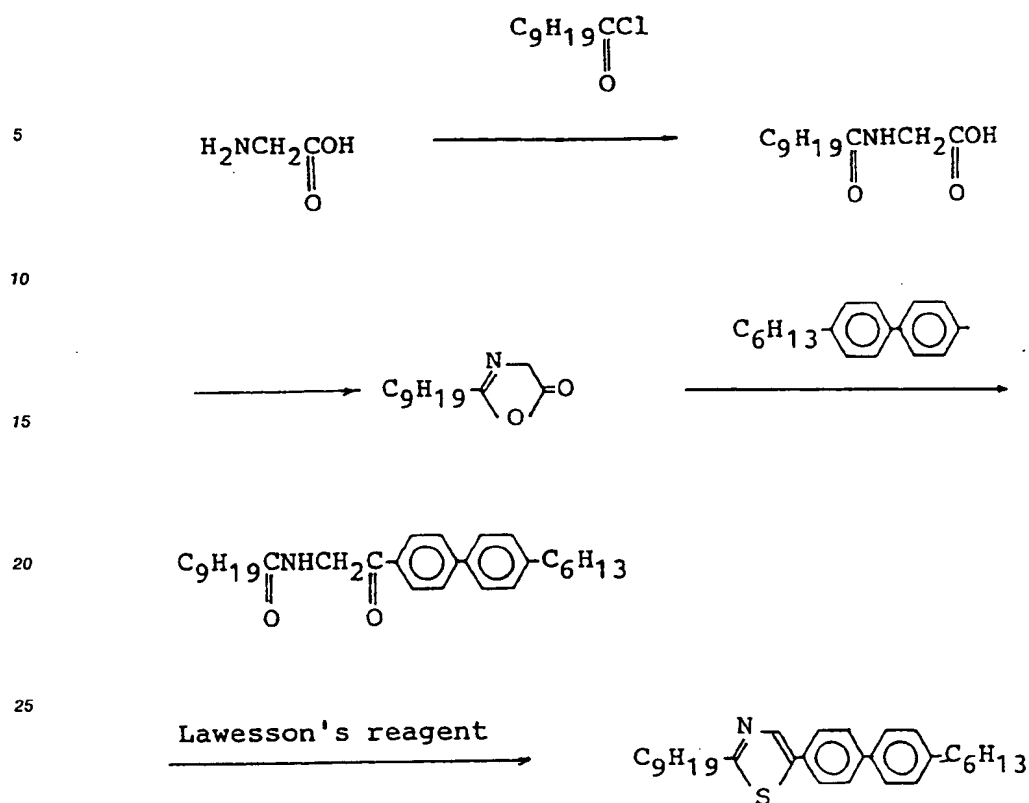
Phase transition temperature (°C)

45

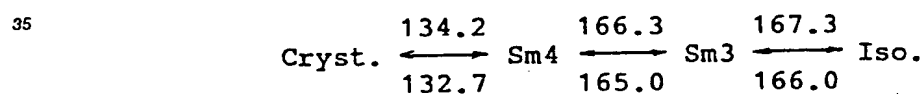
Example 10

50 2-nonyl-5-(4'-hexylbiphenyl-4-yl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-141) was synthesized through the following reaction schemes in the same manner as in Example 8 except that carbon disulfide was used as a reaction solvent of Friedel-Crafts reaction.

55



Phase transition temperature (°C)



Example 11

A liquid crystal composition A was prepared by mixing the following compounds in respectively indicated proportions.

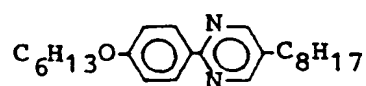
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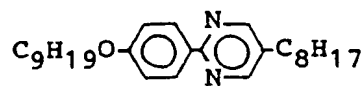
Structural formulawt. parts

5



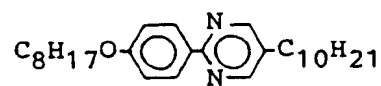
46.14

10



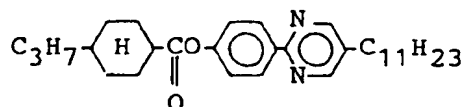
23.07

15



11.54

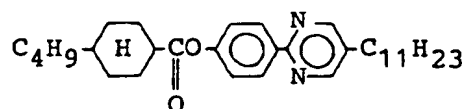
20



3.56

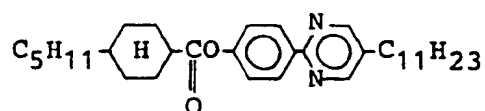
25

30



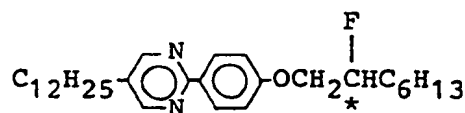
3.56

35



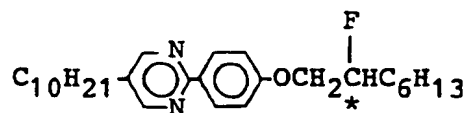
7.13

40



2.50

45



2.50

50

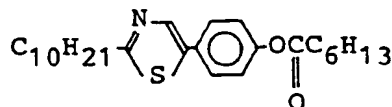
The liquid crystal composition A was further mixed with the following Example Compound 1-130 in the proportions indicated below to provide a liquid crystal composition B.

55

Ex. Comp. No.Structural formulawt. parts

5

1-130



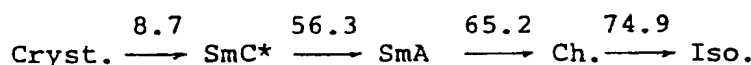
5

10

Composition A

95

The liquid crystal composition B showed the following phase transition series.

15 Phase transition temperature (°C)

20

SmC*: chiral smectic C phase, and
Ch.: cholesteric phase.

25

Example 12

Two 0.7 mm-thick glass plates were provided and respectively coated with an ITO film to form an electrode for voltage application, which was further coated with an insulating layer of vapor-deposited SiO₂.
30 On the insulating layer, a 0.2 %-solution of silane coupling agent (KBM-602, available from Shinetsu Kagaku K.K.) in isopropyl alcohol was applied by spinner coating at a speed of 2000 rpm for 15 second and subjected to hot curing treatment at 120 °C for 20 min.

Further, each glass plate provided with an ITO film and treated in the above described manner was coated with a 1.5 %-solution of polyimide resin precursor (SP-510, available from Toray K.K.) in dimethylacetamide by a spinner coater rotating at 2000 rpm for 15 seconds. Thereafter, the coating film
35 was subjected to heat curing at 300 °C for 60 min. to obtain about 250 Å-thick film. The coating film was rubbed with acetate fiber-planted cloth. The thus treated two glass plates were washed with isopropyl alcohol. After alumina beads with an average particle size of 2.0 microns were dispersed on one of the glass plates, the two glass plates were applied to each other with a bonding sealing agent (Lixon Bond,
40 available from Chisso K.K.) so that their rubbed directions were parallel to each other and heated at 100 °C for 60 min. to form a blank cell. The cell gap was found to be about 2 microns as measured by a Berek compensator.

Then, the liquid crystal composition B prepared in Example 11 was heated into an isotropic liquid, and injected into the above prepared cell under vacuum and, after sealing, was gradually cooled at a rate of 20
45 °C/hour to 25 °C to prepare a ferroelectric liquid crystal device.

The ferroelectric liquid crystal device was subjected to measurement of the magnitude of spontaneous polarization Ps and an optical response time (time from voltage application until the transmittance change reaches 90 % of the maximum under the application of a peak-to-peak voltage Vpp of 20 V in combination with right-angle cross-nicol polarizers).

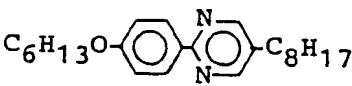
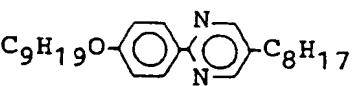
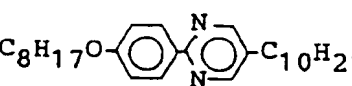
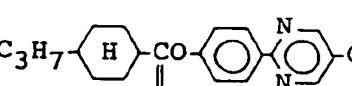
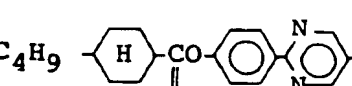
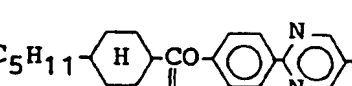
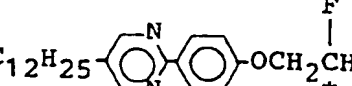
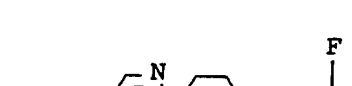


50 The results are shown below.

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>30°C</u>	<u>45°C</u>
55 Response time (µsec)	564	243	143
Ps (nC/cm ²)	3.98	2.95	1.77

Further, the device was assembled into a display apparatus shown in Figure 4 to effect display.

Example 13

- 5 A liquid crystal composition C was prepared by mixing the following compounds in respectively indicated proportions.

	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt.parts</u>
10		51.57
15		25.79
20		12.89
25		1.19
30		1.19
35		2.37
40		2.50
45		2.50
50		2.50
55		2.50

The liquid crystal composition C was further mixed with the following Example Compound No. 1-55 in the proportions indicated below to provide a liquid crystal composition D.

<u>Ex. Comp. No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt. parts</u>
1-55		10
Composition C		90

The liquid crystal composition D showed the following phase transition series.

Phase transition temperature (°C)

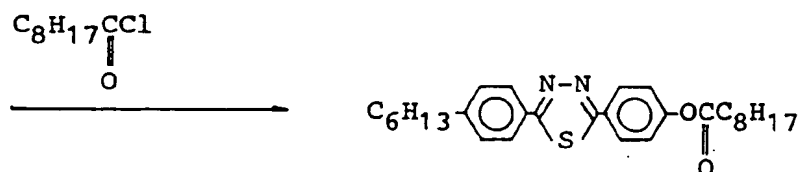
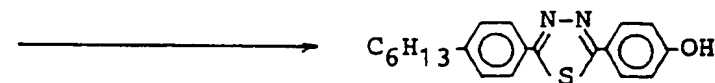
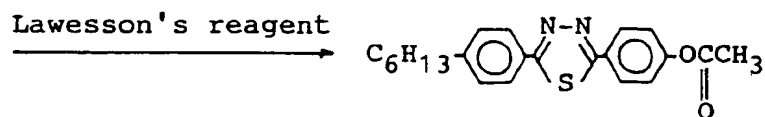
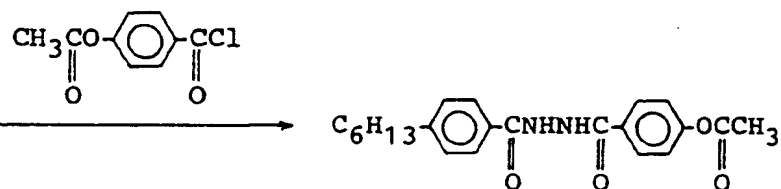
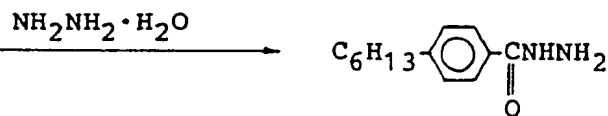
Cryst. $\xrightarrow{10.0}$ SmC* $\xrightarrow{60.7}$ SmA $\xrightarrow{69.5}$ Ch. $\xrightarrow{75.6}$ Iso.

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except for using the composition D. The ferroelectric liquid crystal device was subjected to measurement of the magnitude of spontaneous polarization Ps and response time in the same manner as in Example 12, whereby the following results were obtained.

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>30°C</u>	<u>45°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	419	201	122
Ps (nC/cm ²)	3.06	2.56	1.56

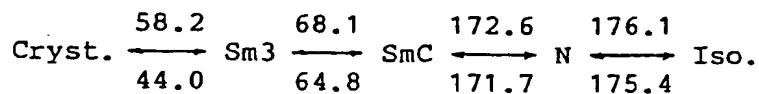
Comparative Example 1

2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(nonanoyloxyphenyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazole was synthesized through the following reaction schemes.

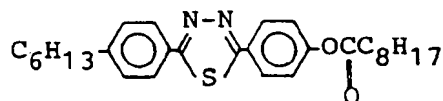


The above-prepared compound showed the following phase transition series.

Phase transition temperature (°C)



The liquid crystal composition C was mixed with the above-prepared compound in the proportions indicated below to provide a liquid crystal composition E.

Structural formulawt. parts

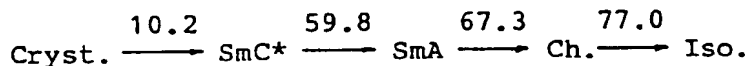
10

Composition C

90

The liquid crystal E showed the following phase transition series.

Phase transition temperature (°C)



A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except for using the composition E. The ferroelectric liquid crystal device was subjected to measurement of the magnitude of spontaneous polarization P_s and response time in the same manner as in Example 12, whereby the following results were obtained.

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>30°C</u>	<u>45°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	544	246	155
P_s (nC/cm^2)	4.80	3.62	2.52

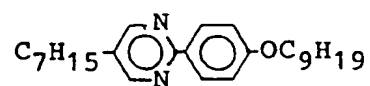
As is apparent from Example 13 and Comparative Example 1, the liquid crystal composition D according to the present invention had a smaller response time than that of the liquid crystal composition E though the liquid crystal composition D had a smaller P_s than that of the liquid crystal composition E. As a result, we have found that the composition comprising the mesomorphic compound having a thiazole ring of the present invention has a lower viscosity and higher response speed than those of the composition comprising the mesomorphic compound having a 1,3,4-thiadiazole ring.

Example 14

A liquid crystal composition F was prepared by mixing the following compounds in respectively indicated proportions.

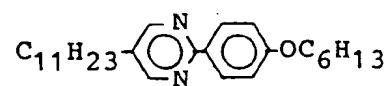
Structural formulawt.parts

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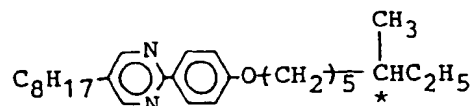
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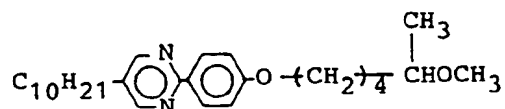
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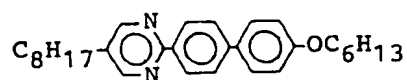
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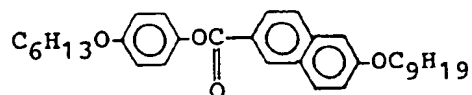
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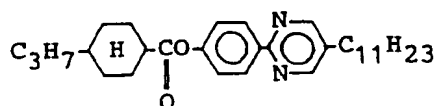
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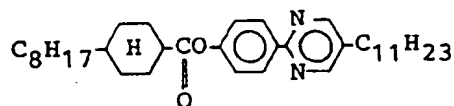
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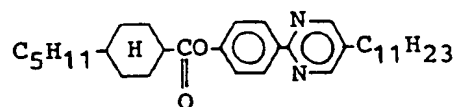
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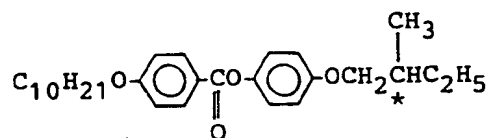
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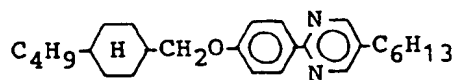
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15

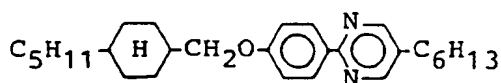
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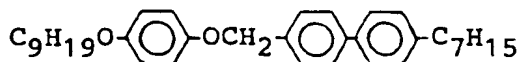


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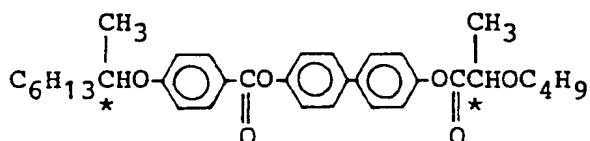
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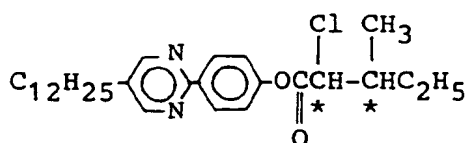
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4



2

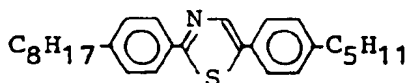


2

The liquid crystal composition F was further mixed with the following Example Compounds in the proportions indicated below to provide a liquid crystal composition G.

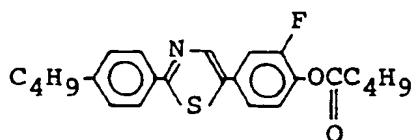
Ex.Comp.No.Structural formulawt.parts

1-18



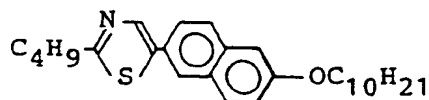
4

1-47



2

1-154



2

Composition F

92

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except for using the composition G. The ferroelectric liquid crystal device was subjected to measurement of response time in the same manner as in Example 10, whereby the following results were obtained.

	<u>10 °C</u>	<u>25 °C</u>	<u>40 °C</u>
Response time (μsec)	723	351	191

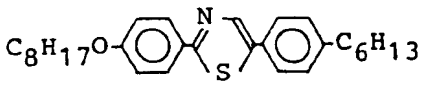
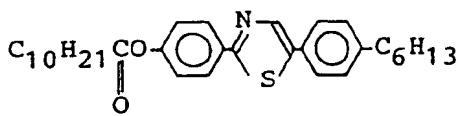
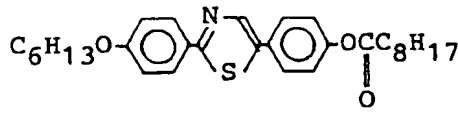
Comparative Example 2

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the liquid crystal composition F prepared in Example 14 was injected into a cell. The measured values of the response time of the device were as follows.

	<u>10 °C</u>	<u>25 °C</u>	<u>40 °C</u>
Response time (μsec)	784	373	197

Example 15

A liquid crystal composition H was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition F prepared in Example 14.

<u>Ex. Comp. No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt. parts</u>
1-79		4
1-97		4
1-109		2
Composition F		90

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition H was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time. The results of the measurement are shown below.

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	731	357	197

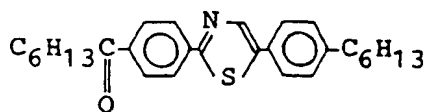
Example 16

A liquid crystal composition I was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition F prepared in Example 14.

<u>Ex.Comp.No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt.parts</u>
--------------------	---------------------------	-----------------

5

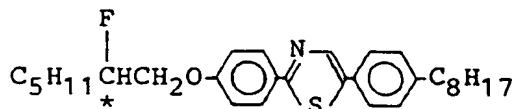
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4

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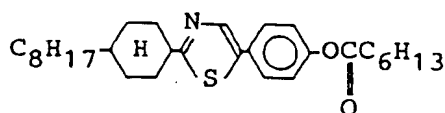
1-91



2

15

1-118



4

20

Composition F

90

25

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition I was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time. The results of the measurement are shown below.

30

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	699	334	180

35

Example 17

A liquid crystal composition J was prepared by mixing the following compounds in respectively indicated proportions.

40

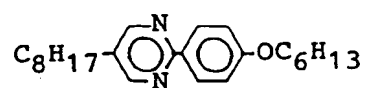
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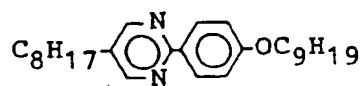
Structural formulawt. parts

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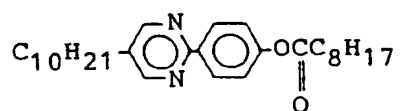
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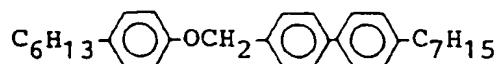
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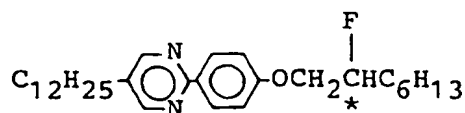
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5	$\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{21}-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}_2-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{OC}_3\text{H}_7$	7
10	$\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{25}-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}_2-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_4-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{OCH}_3$	6
15	$\text{C}_5\text{H}_{11}-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}_2-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}$	5
20	$\text{C}_7\text{H}_{15}-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}_2-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}$	5
25	$\text{C}_4\text{H}_9-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}-\text{CO}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}_2-\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{25}$	8
30		
35	$\text{C}_3\text{H}_7-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}-\text{CO}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}_2-\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{21}$	8
40	$\text{C}_9\text{H}_{19}\text{O}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{CO}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{OC}_5\text{H}_{11}$	20
45	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{CO}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{OCH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$	5
50	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{OC}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OC}_6\text{H}_{13}$	5
55		

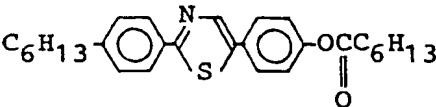
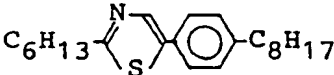
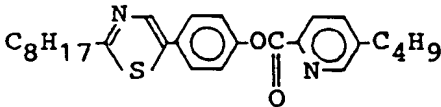


6



3

The liquid crystal composition J was further mixed with the following Example Compounds in the proportions indicated below to provide a liquid crystal composition K.

<u>Ex. Comp. No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt. parts</u>
1-54		2
1-126		4
1-136		4
Composition J		90

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except for using the composition K. The ferroelectric liquid crystal device was subjected to measurement of response time, in the same manner as in Example 10, whereby the following results were obtained.

	<u>10 °C</u>	<u>25 °C</u>	<u>40 °C</u>
Response time (μsec)	583	288	146

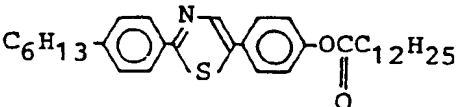
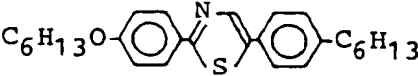
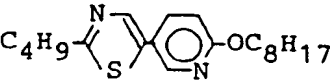
Comparative Example 3

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the liquid crystal composition J prepared in Example 17 was injected into a cell. The measured values of the response time of the device were as follows.

	<u>10 °C</u>	<u>25 °C</u>	<u>40 °C</u>
Response time (μsec)	653	317	159

Example 18

A liquid crystal composition L was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition J prepared in Example 17.

<u>Ex.Comp.No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt.parts</u>
1-58		2
1-78		4
1-133		4
Composition J		90

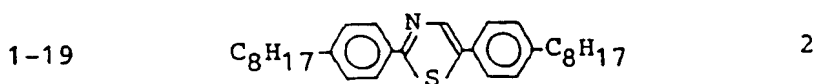
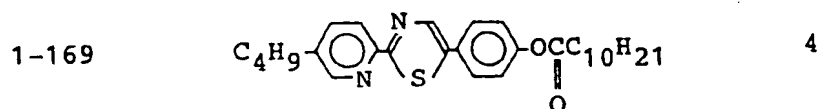
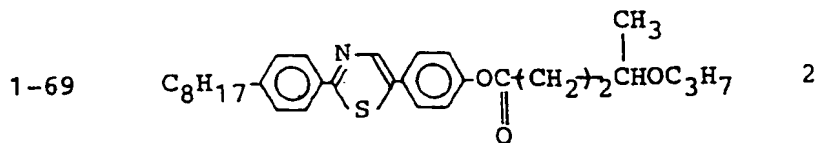
A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition L was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time. The results of the measurement are shown below.

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	601	296	151

Example 19

A liquid crystal composition M was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition J prepared in Example 17.

<u>Ex. Comp. No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt. parts</u>
----------------------	---------------------------	------------------



Composition J	92
---------------	----

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition M was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time. The results of the measurement are shown below.

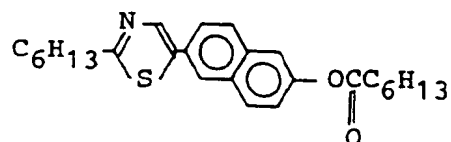
	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	605	299	158

Example 20

A liquid crystal composition N was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition J prepared in Example 17.

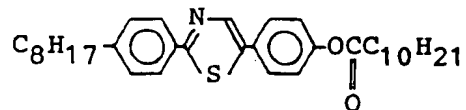
<u>Ex. Comp. No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt. parts</u>
----------------------	---------------------------	------------------

1-156



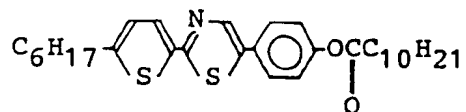
2

1-64



2

1-187



4

Composition J

92

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition N was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time. The results of the measurement are shown below.

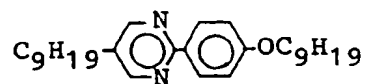
	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	590	291	150

Example 21

A liquid crystal composition O was prepared by mixing the following compounds in respectively indicated proportions.

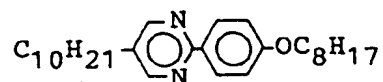
Structural formulawt.parts

5



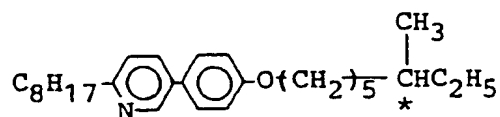
6

10



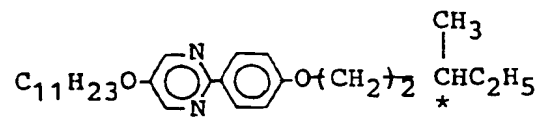
6

15



7

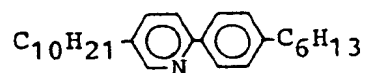
20



14

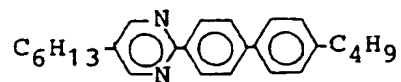
25

30



8

35



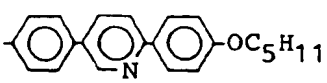
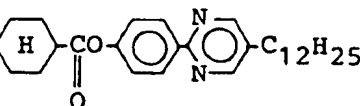
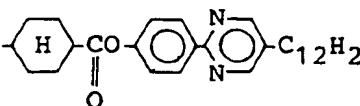
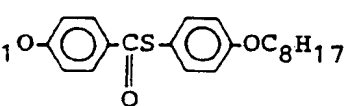
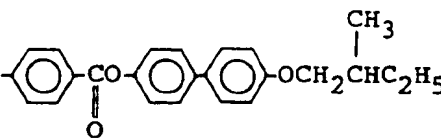
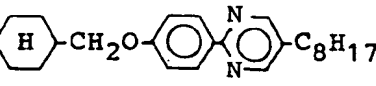
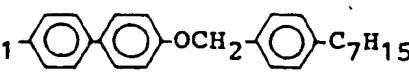
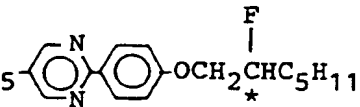
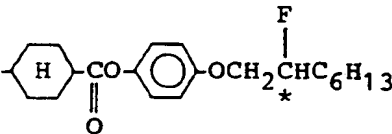
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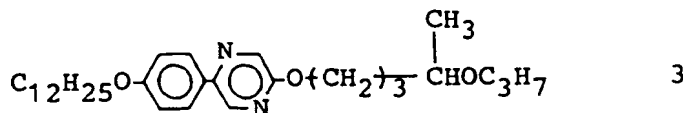
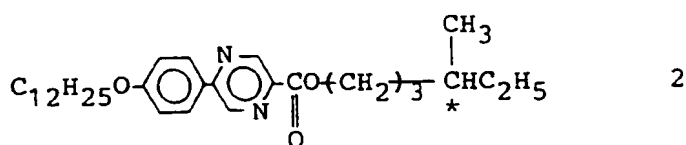
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5	C_8H_{17} 	2
10	C_3H_7 	10
15	C_5H_{11} 	5
20	$C_{10}H_{21}O$ 	10
25	C_6H_{13} 	7
30	C_3H_7 	7
35	$C_{10}H_{21}$ 	5
40	$C_{12}H_{25}$ 	2
45	C_5H_{11} 	2



The liquid crystal composition O was further mixed with the following Example Compounds in the proportions indicated below to provide a liquid crystal composition P.

<u>Ex. Comp. No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt. parts</u>
1-121	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{N} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}$	2
1-149	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_{13}-\text{N} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}-\text{O}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{C}_6\text{H}_{17}$	2
1-151	$\text{C}_9\text{H}_{19}-\text{N} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}-\text{N} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}-\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{21}$	4
Composition O		92

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except for using the composition P. In the ferroelectric liquid crystal device, a monodomain with a good and uniform alignment characteristic was observed. The ferroelectric liquid crystal device was subjected to measurement of response time and observation of a switching state, etc. in the same manner as in Example 12, whereby the following results were obtained.

	<u>10 °C</u>	<u>25 °C</u>	<u>40 °C</u>
Response time (μsec)	637	328	181

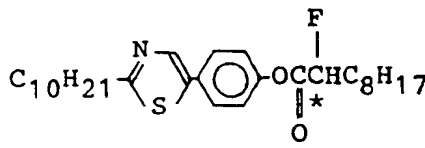
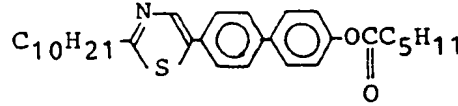
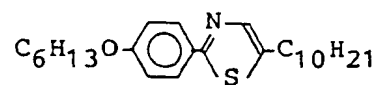
Comparative Example 4

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the liquid crystal composition O prepared in Example 21 was injected into a cell. The measured values of the response time of the device were as follows.

	<u>10 °C</u>	<u>25 °C</u>	<u>40 °C</u>
Response time (μsec)	668	340	182

Example 22

A liquid crystal composition Q was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition D prepared in Example 21.

<u>Ex.Comp.No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt.parts</u>
1-138		1
1-142		3
1-181		3
Composition O		93

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition Q was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time and observation of switching states. In the device, a monodomain with a good and uniform alignment characteristic was observed. The results of the measurement are shown below.

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	622	323	175

As is apparent from the results shown in the above Examples 14 - 22, the ferroelectric liquid crystal devices containing the liquid crystal compositions G to I, K to N, P and Q showed an improved low-temperature operation characteristic, a high-speed responsiveness, and a decreased temperature dependence of the response speed.

Example 23

A blank cell was prepared in the same manner as in Example 16 by using a 2 % aqueous solution of polyvinyl alcohol resin (PVA-117, available from Kuraray K.K.) instead of the 1.5 %-solution of polyimide resin precursor in dimethylacetamide on each electrode plate. A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared by filling the blank cell with the liquid crystal composition I prepared in Example 16. The liquid

crystal device was subjected to measurement of optical response time in the same manner as in Example 12. The results are shown below.

5		<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
	Response time (μsec)	667	318	171

10

Example 24

A blank cell was prepared in the same manner as in Example 16 except for omitting the SiO₂ layer to form an alignment control layer composed of the polyimide resin layer alone on each electrode plate. A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared by filling the blank cell with the liquid crystal composition I prepared in Example 16. The liquid crystal device was subjected to measurement of optical response time in the same manner as in Example 12. The results are shown below.

20		<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
	Response time (μsec)	660	321	173

As is apparent from the above Examples 23 and 24, also in the cases of different device structures, the devices containing the ferroelectric liquid crystal composition I according to the present invention respectively provided a remarkably improved operation characteristic at a lower temperature and also a decreased temperature-dependence of the response speed similar to those in Example 16.

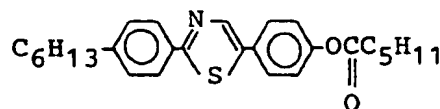
Example 25

2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-hexanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-196) was synthesized through the following reaction scheme.

35

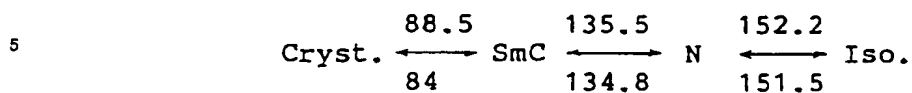


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In a 200 ml-round-bottomed flask, 2.00 g (5.93 mM) of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole, 0.76 g (6.54 mM) of hexanoic acid and 40 ml of dichloromethane were placed and mixed. To the solution, 1.24 g (6.01 mM) of N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide and 0.10 g of 4-pyrrolidinopyridine were successively added under stirring at room temperature, followed by further stirring for 7 hours at room temperature to precipitate N,N'-dicyclohexylurea. The resultant N,N'-dicyclohexylurea was filtered off and the solvent of the filtrate was distilled-off under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: toluene/ethyl acetate = 100/1) and recrystallized from a mixture solvent of toluene-methanol to obtain 1.81 g of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(4-hexanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 70.1 %).

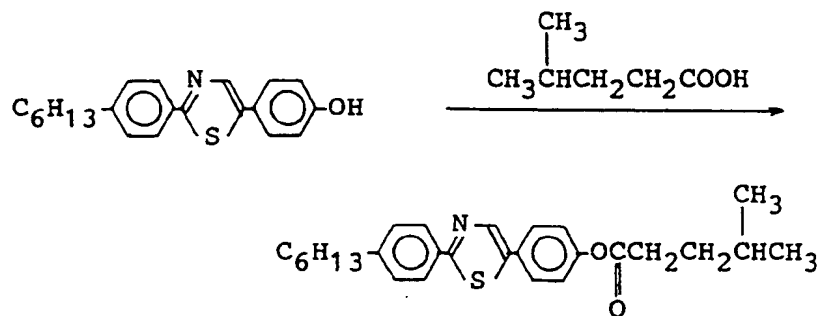
Phase transition temperature (°C)10 Example 26

2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-[4-(4-methylpentanoyloxy)phenyl]thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-197) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 25 (Yield: 82.1 %).

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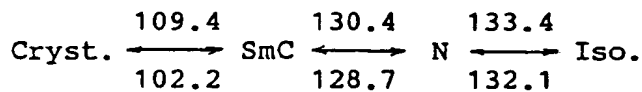
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Phase transition temperature (°C)

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35

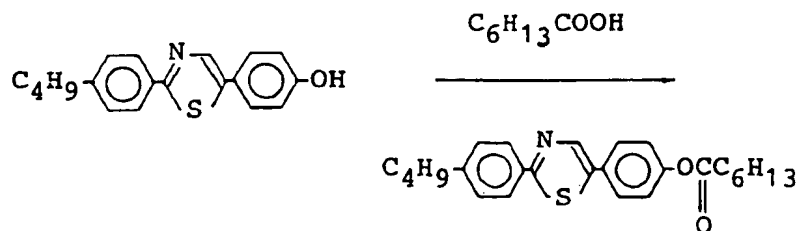
Example 27

40 2-(4-butylphenyl)-5-(4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-48) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 25 by using 2-(4-butylphenyl)-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole prepared in the same manner as in Example 1 (Yield: 85.7 %).

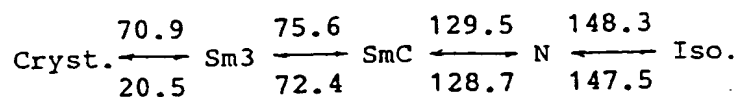
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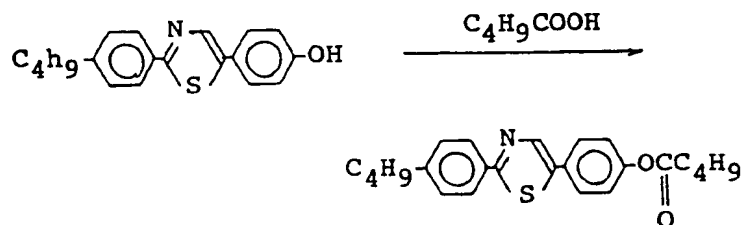


Phase transition temperature (°C)

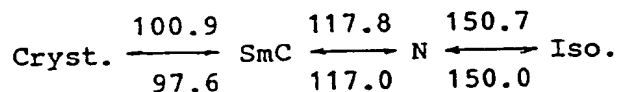


Example 28

2-(4-butylphenyl)-5-(4-pentanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-198) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 27 (Yield: 76.2 %).

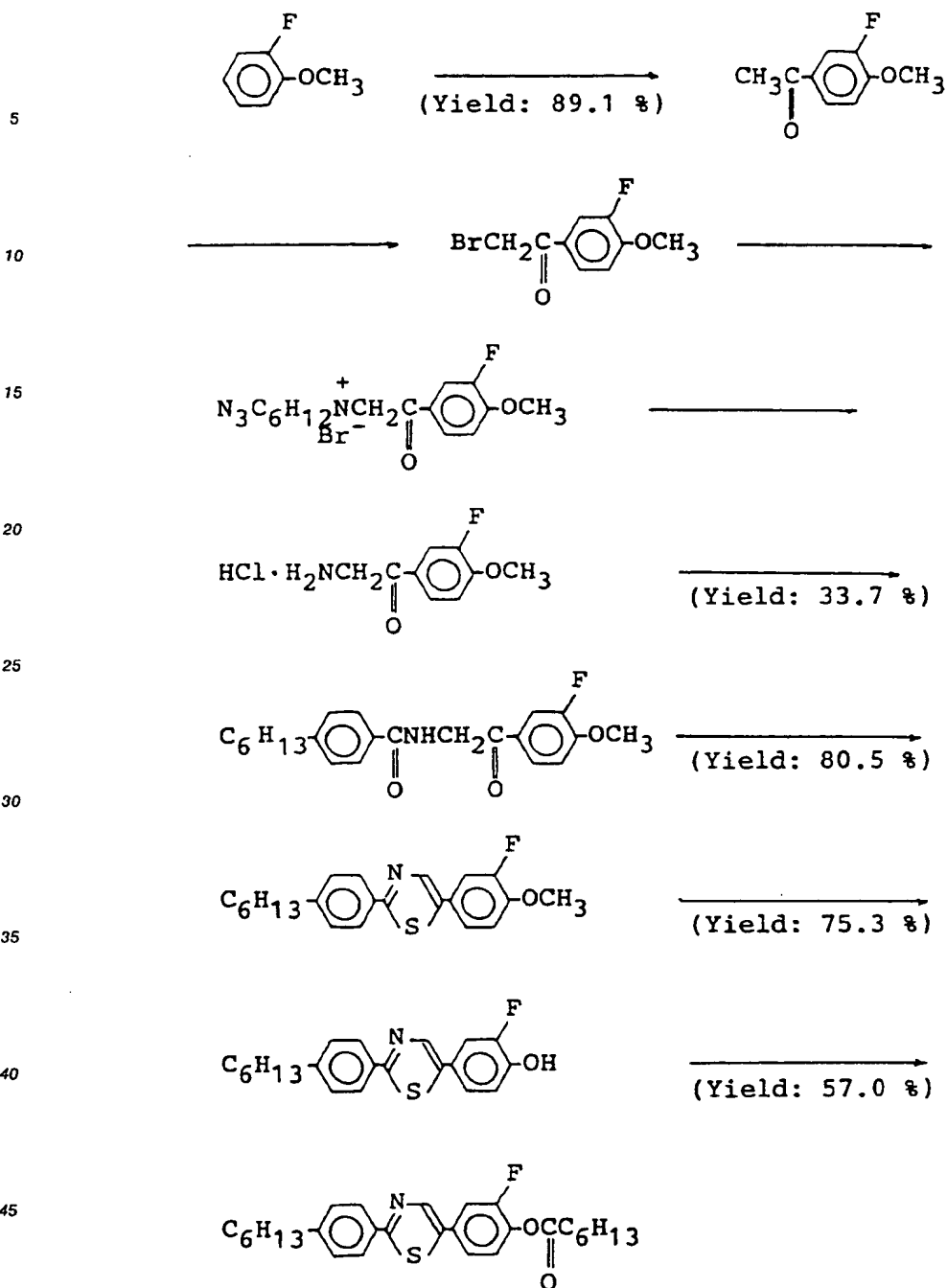


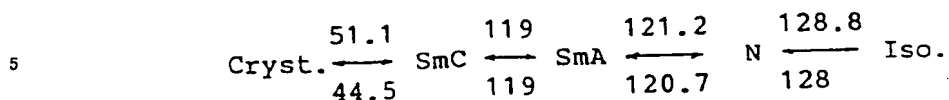
Phase transition temperature (°C)



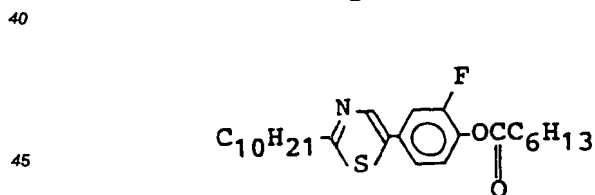
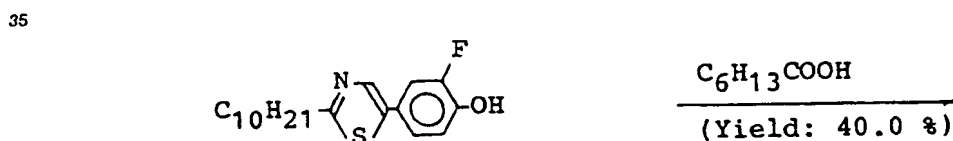
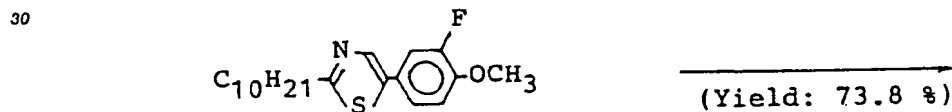
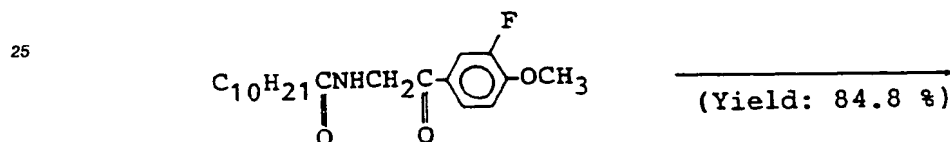
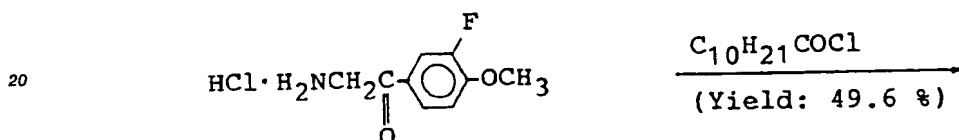
Example 29

2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(3-fluoro-4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-192) was synthesized through the following reactions schemes in the same manner as in Example 1 with the yields of respective steps shown below.



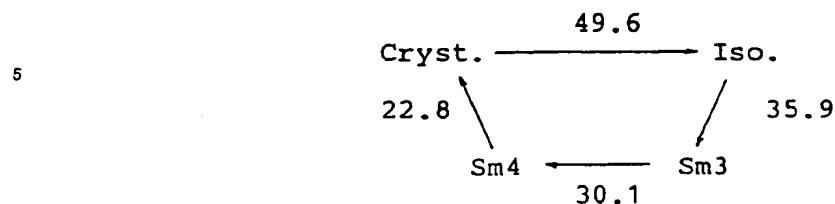
Phase transition temperature (°C)10 Example 30

2-decyl-5-(3-fluoro-4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-200) was synthesized through the following reaction schemes in the same manner as in Example 6 by using 3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenacylamine hydrochloride prepared in Example 29 with the yields of respective steps shown below.

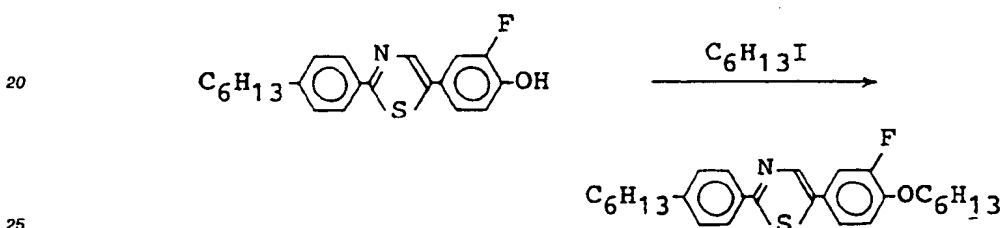


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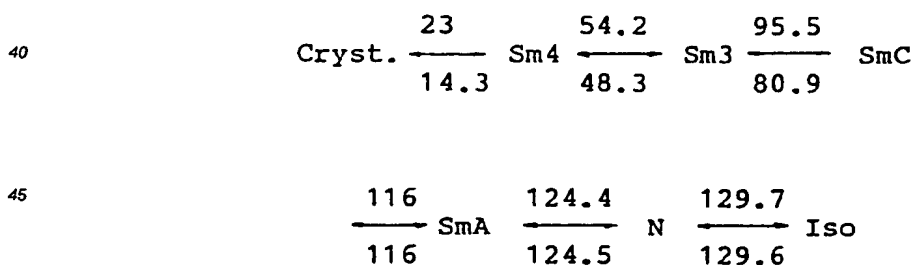
Phase transition temperature (°C)Example 31

15 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(3-fluoro-4-hexyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-199) was synthesized through the following reaction scheme.



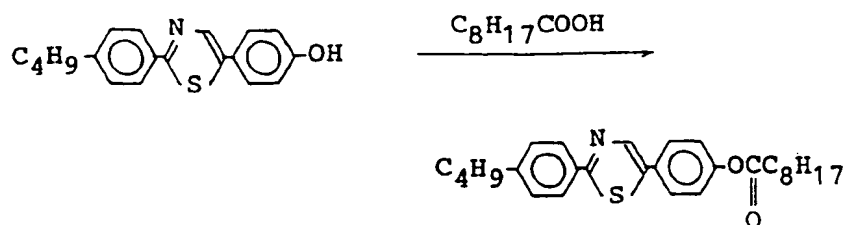
In a 30 ml-round-bottomed flask, 1.07 g (3.01 mM) of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(3-fluoro-4-hydroxyphenyl)-thiazole prepared in Example 29, 0.23 g (3.48 mM) of potassium hydroxide and 5 ml of butanol were placed and heated. To the solution, 0.74 g (3.49 mM) of hexyl iodide was gradually added under heat-stirring, followed by heat-stirring for 5 hours about 90 °C. After the reaction, the solvent was removed from the reaction mixture and water was added to the resultant residue to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration and washed with water. The resultant crystal was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: toluene) and recrystallized from a mixture solvent of toluene-methanol to obtain

35 0.90 g of 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(3-fluoro-4-hexyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 68.0 %).

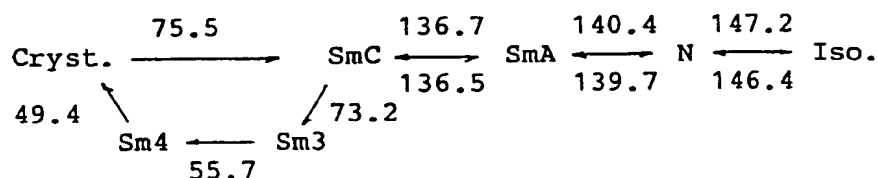
Phase transition temperature (°C)Example 32

2-(4-butylphenyl)-5-(4-nonanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-49) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 27 (Yield: 57.5 %).

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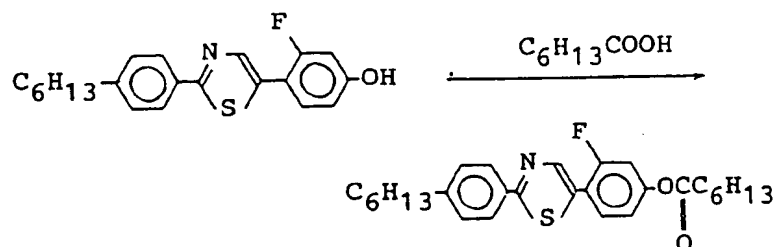


Phase transition temperature (°C)

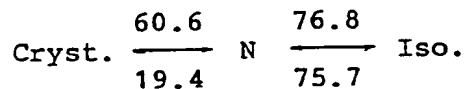


Example 33

2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(2-fluoro-4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-217) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 25 by using 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(2-fluoro-4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole prepared from m-fluoroanisole in the same manner as in Example 29 (Yield: 63.3 %).

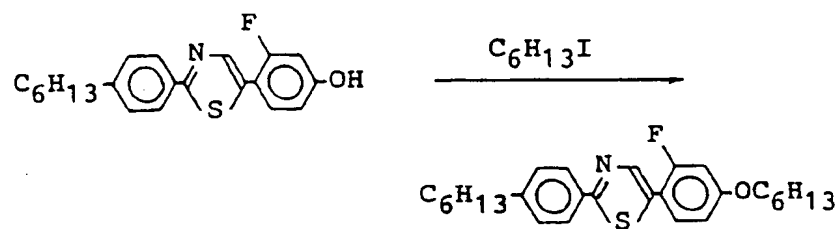


Phase transition temperature (°C)

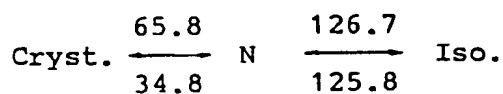


Example 34

2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(2-fluoro-4-hexyloxyphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-220) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 31 by using 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(2-fluoro-4-hydroxyphenyl)thiazole prepared in Example 33 (Yield: 79.6 %).



Phase transition temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)



Examples 35 - 40

Six species of mesomorphic compounds shown in Table 1 were prepared in the same manner as in Example 8. The results are shown in Table 1 below.

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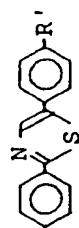
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Table 1 Production of R--R'

Ex. No.	Ex. Comp. No.	R	R'	Phase transition temperature (°C)
35	1-2	C ₄ H ₉	C ₈ H ₁₇	Cryst. $\xrightarrow{64.7}$ SmA $\xrightarrow{119.1}$ Iso. 54.6 \searrow Sm3 \swarrow 60.6
36	1-201	C ₄ H ₉	C ₉ H ₁₉	Cryst. $\xrightarrow{72.2}$ SmA $\xrightarrow{123.5}$ Iso. 56.3 \searrow Sm3 \swarrow 67.4
37	1-8	C ₆ H ₁₃	C ₄ H ₉	Cryst. $\xrightarrow{71.9}$ SmA $\xrightarrow{94.9}$ N $\xrightarrow{118.1}$ Iso. 48.1 \searrow Sm3 \swarrow 93.9
38	1-208	C ₈ H ₁₇	C ₆ H ₁₃	Cryst. $\xrightarrow{46.8}$ SmA $\xrightarrow{123.6}$ Iso. 43.6 \searrow SmC \swarrow 59.9

...cont.

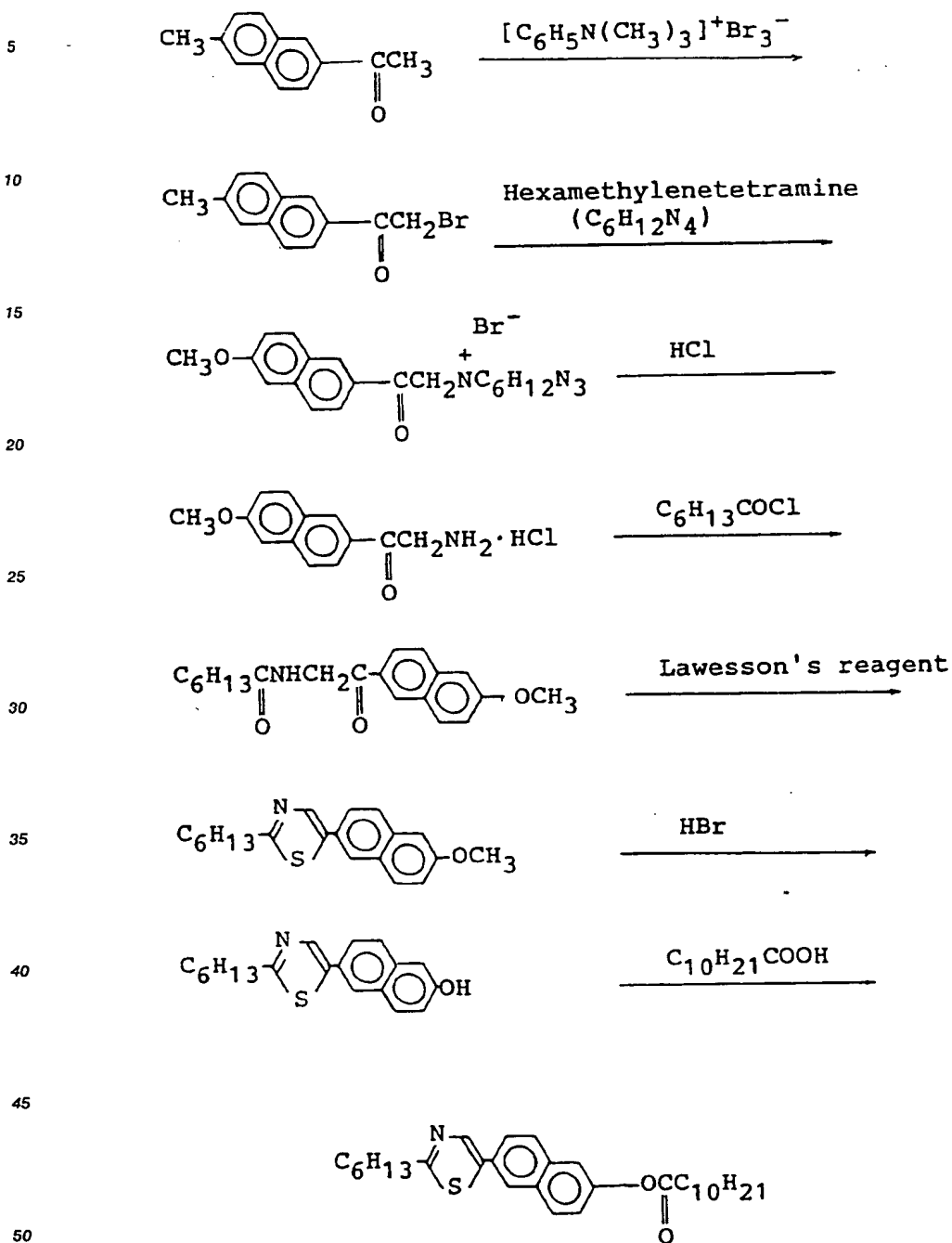
Table 1 (cont.)

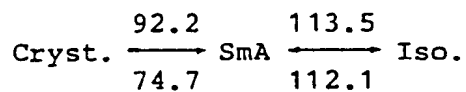
39	1-19	C ₈ H ₁₇	C ₈ H ₁₇	Cryst. $\xleftrightarrow{61.6}$ SmC $\xleftrightarrow{55.7}$ 65.8 $\xleftrightarrow{64.7}$ SmA $\xleftrightarrow{126.8}$ 124.6 $\xleftrightarrow{126.8}$ Iso.
40	1-210	C ₈ H ₁₇	C ₁₀ H ₂₁	Cryst. $\xleftrightarrow{45.4}$ Sm4 $\xleftrightarrow{41.1}$ 65.3 $\xleftrightarrow{58.3}$ Sm3 $\xleftrightarrow{77.1}$ 76.2 $\xleftrightarrow{95}$ SmC $\xleftrightarrow{95}$ Iso. SmA $\xleftrightarrow{126.6}$ 125.1

55 Example 41

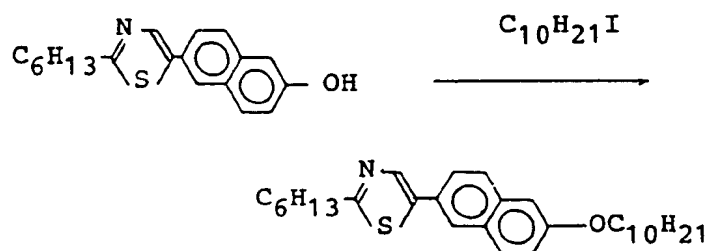
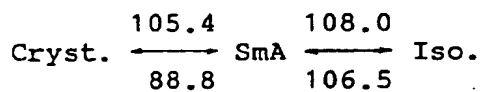
2-hexyl-5-(6-undecanoyloxy-2-naphthyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-222) was synthesized through the following reaction schemes in the same manner as in Example 25 by using 2-hexyl-5-(6-

hydroxy-2-naphthyl)thiazole prepared from 2-acetyl-6-methoxynaphthalene synthesized through a process shown in "Org., Syn. Coll.", vol. 6 34.



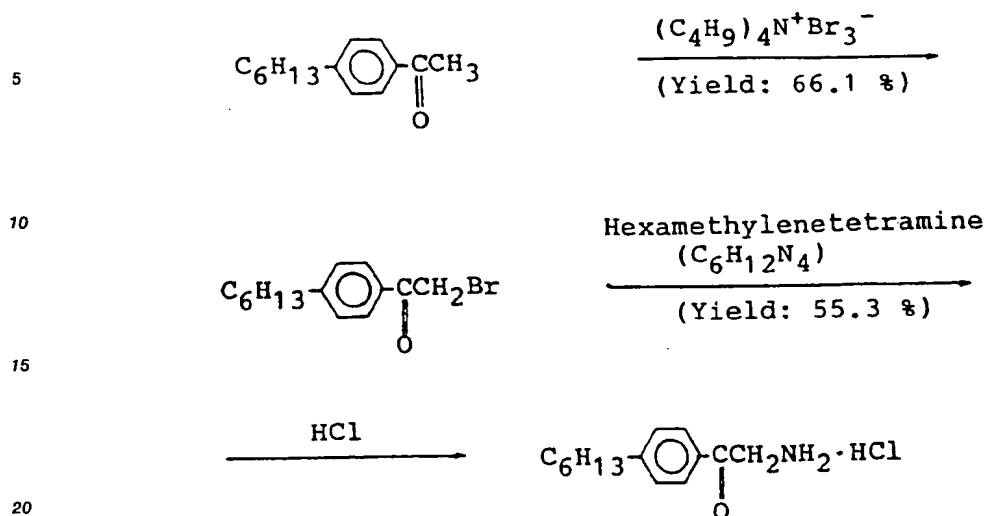
Phase transition temperature (°C)Example 42

2-hexyl-5-(6-decyloxy-2-naphthyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-223) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 31 by using 2-hexyl-5-(6-hydroxy-2-naphthyl)thiazole prepared in Example 41 (Yield: 52.9 %).

Phase transition temperature (°C)Example 43

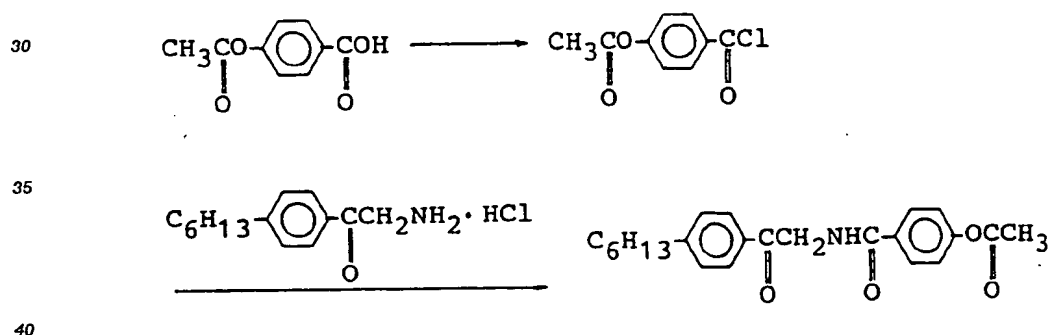
2-(4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-95) was synthesized through the following steps i) - iv).

Step i)



25 4-hexylphenacrylamine hydrochloride was synthesized through the above reaction scheme in the same manner as in Example 1.

Step ii)

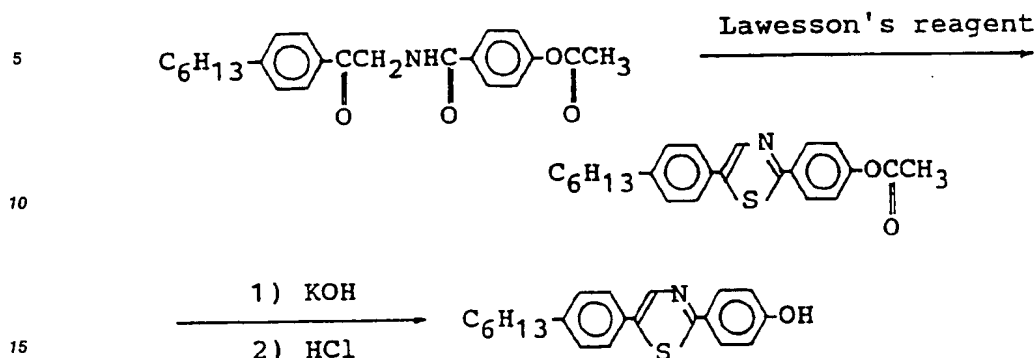


45 In a 200 ml-reaction vessel, 21.4 g (1.18×10^{-1} M) of p-acetoxybenzoic acid and 80 ml of dry benzene were placed. To the mixture, 25.0 g (1.20×10^{-1} M) of phosphorus pentachloride was added in 10 minutes at room temperature, followed by stirring for 3 hours at 50 °C. After cooling, the solvent of the reaction mixture was distilled off to provide oily p-acetoxybenzoyl chloride.

50 Then, in a 300 ml-reaction vessel, 30 g (1.17×10^{-1} mol) of 4-hexylphenacrylamine hydrochloride and 200 ml of dry pyridine were placed. To the mixture, a solution of the above-prepared p-acetoxybenzoyl chloride in 20 ml of dry benzene was added dropwise in 50 minutes below 0 °C, followed by stirring for 5 hours while gradually cooling to room temperature. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into ice water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, dried and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: n-hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1) to obtain 21.5 g of 4'-acetoxybenzoyl-4-hexylphenacrylamine (Yield: 48.2 %).

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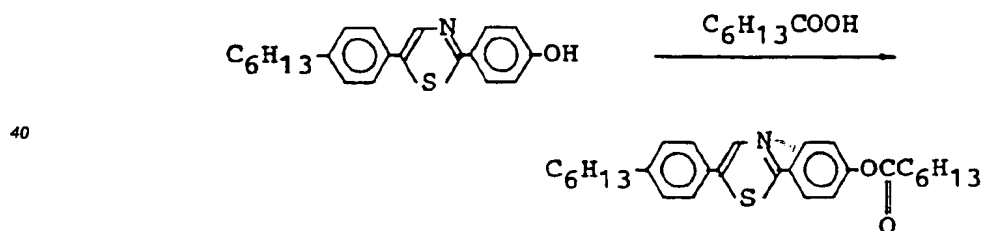
Step iii)



In a 200 ml-reaction vessel, 20.0 g (5.25×10^{-2} M) of 4'-acetoxybenzoyl-4-hexylphenylamine, 21.2 g (5.25×10^{-2} M) of Lawesson's reagent and 100 ml of toluene were placed, followed by heat-refluxing for 3 hours. After cooling, the reaction mixture was subjected to distilling-off of the solvent to provide a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: n-hexane/ethyl acetate = 6/1) to obtain 16.5 g of 2-(4-acetoxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 82.9 %).

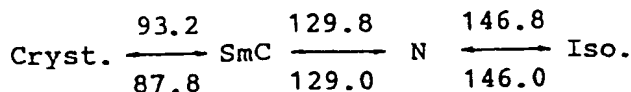
Then, in a 500 ml-reaction vessel, 16.5 g (4.35×10^{-2} M) of 2-(4-acetoxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole and 250 ml of 0.5N-solution of potassium hydroxide in ethanol, followed by stirring for 3 hours at 60 °C. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into 600 ml of ice water and acidified with 6N-hydrochloric acid to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, washed with water and dissolved in ethanol, followed by treatment with activated carbon. The activated carbon was removed from the above mixture by filtration and the filtrate was condensed, followed by drying to provide a residue. The residue was recrystallized from ethanol to obtain 12.8 g of 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 87.3 %).

Step iv)



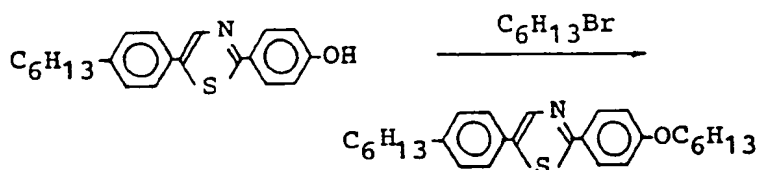
2-(4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole was prepared from 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole in the same manner as in Example 25 (Yield: 45.1 %).

Phase transition temperature (°C)

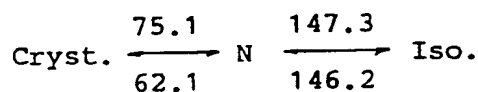


Example 44

2-(4-hexyloxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-78) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 31 by using 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole prepared in Example 43 (Yield: 80.0 %).



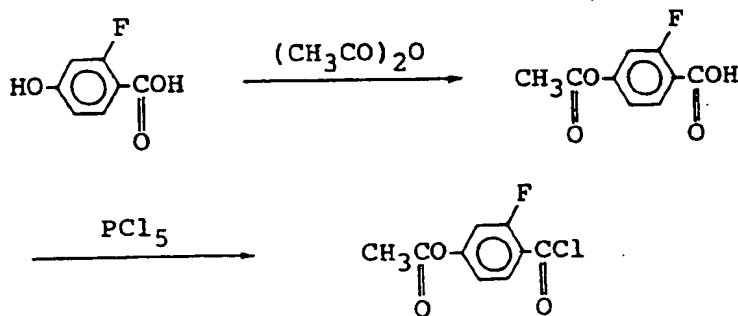
Phase transition temperature (°C)



Example 45

2-(2-fluoro-4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-225) was synthesized through the following steps i) - iii).

Step i)



In a 100 ml-reaction vessel, 12.1 g (1.83x10⁻¹ M) of potassium hydroxide and 50 ml of water were placed, followed by cooling to 0 °C. To the mixture, 12.0 g (7.69x10⁻² M) of 2-fluoro-4-hydroxybenzoic acid was added and dissolved therein. To the solution, 7.9 g (7.74x10⁻² M) of acetic anhydride was added

dropwise in 30 minutes at 0 °C, followed by stirring for 2 hours. After stirring, the reaction mixture was acidified with 6N-hydrochloric acid to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, followed by washing with water and drying to obtain 9.5 g of 2-fluoro-4-acetoxybenzoic acid (Yield: 62.4 %).

Then, in a 100 ml-reaction vessel, 9.5 g (4.80×10^{-2} M) of 2-fluoro-4-acetoxybenzoic acid and 50 ml of dry benzene were placed. To the mixture, 10.3 g (4.94×10^{-2} M) of phosphorus pentachloride was added in 30 minutes at room temperature, followed by stirring for 4 hours at 50 °C. After cooling, the solvent of the reaction mixture was distilled off to provide oily 2-fluoro-4-acetoxy-benzoyl chloride.

Step ii)

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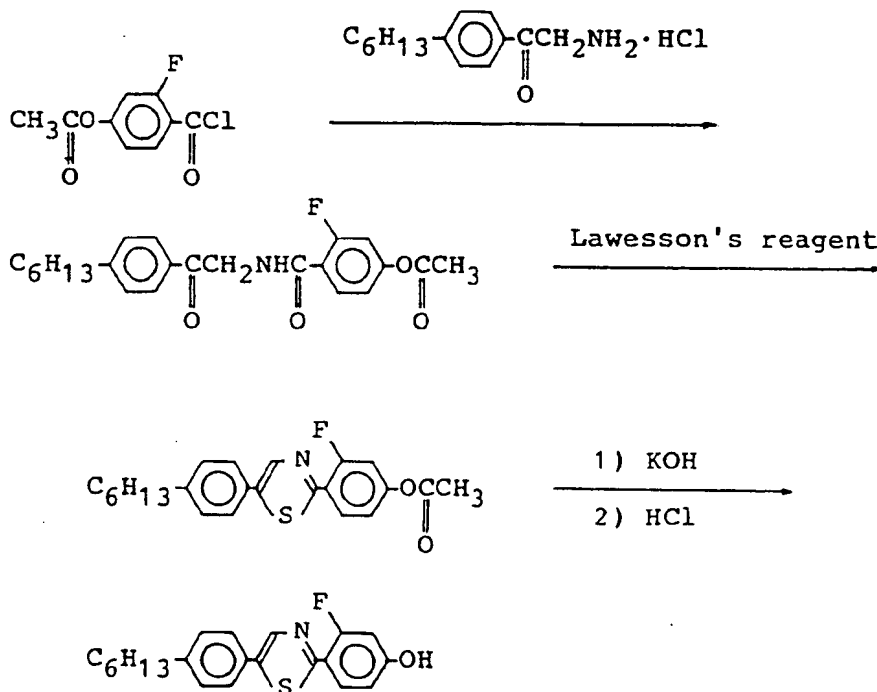
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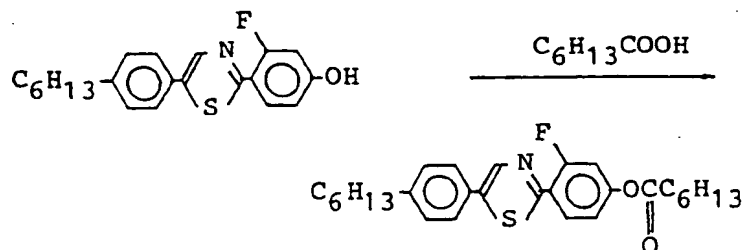
In a 200 ml-reaction vessel, 12.3 g (4.81×10^{-2} mol) of 4-hexylphenylamine hydrochloride prepared in Example 43 and 95 ml of dry pyridine were placed. To the mixture, a solution of the above-prepared 2-fluoro-4-acetoxybenzoyl chloride in 20 ml of dry benzene was added dropwise in 60 minutes below 0 °C, followed by stirring for 15 hours while gradually cooling to room temperature. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into ice water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, dried and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: n-hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1) to obtain 9.3 g of 2'-fluoro-4'-acetoxybenzoyl-4-hexylphenylamine (Yield: 48.7 %).

Then, in a 100 ml-reaction vessel, 9.20 g (2.31×10^{-2} M) of 2'-fluoro-4'-acetoxybenzoyl-4-hexylphenylamine, 9.32 g (2.31×10^{-2} M) of Lawesson's reagent and 50 ml of toluene were placed, followed by heat-refluxing for 1 hours. After cooling, the reaction mixture was subjected to distilling-off of the solvent to provide a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: n-hexane/ethyl acetate = 6/1) to obtain 8.39 g of 2-(2-fluoro-4-acetoxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 91.3 %).

Then, in a 200 ml-reaction vessel, 8.2 g (2.07×10^{-2} M) of 2-(4-acetoxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole and 130 ml of 0.5N-solution of potassium hydroxide in ethanol, followed by stirring for 3 hours at 60 °C. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into 300 ml of ice water and acidified with 6N-hydrochloric acid to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, washed with water and dissolved in ethanol, followed by treatment with activated carbon. The activated carbon was removed from the above mixture by filtration and the filtrate was condensed, followed by drying to provide a residue. The residue was recrystallized from ethanol to obtain 6.5 g of 2-(2-fluoro-4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole.

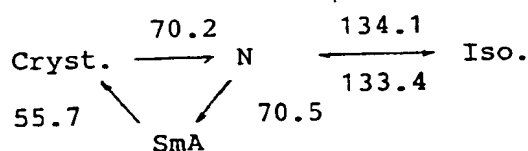
(Yield: 88.4 %).

Step iii)



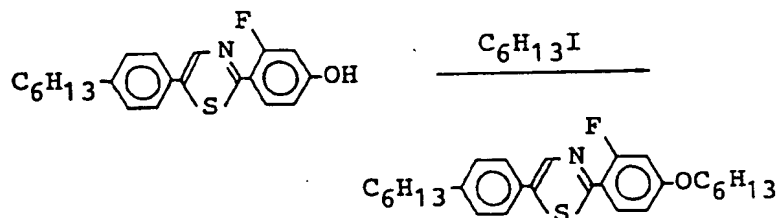
2-(2-fluoro-4-heptanoyloxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole was prepared in the same manner as in Example 25 (Yield: 78.7 %).

Phase transition temperature (°C)



Example 46

2-(2-fluoro-4-hexyloxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-227) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 31 by using 2-(2-fluoro-4-hydroxyphenyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole prepared in Example 45 (Yield: 38.2 %).



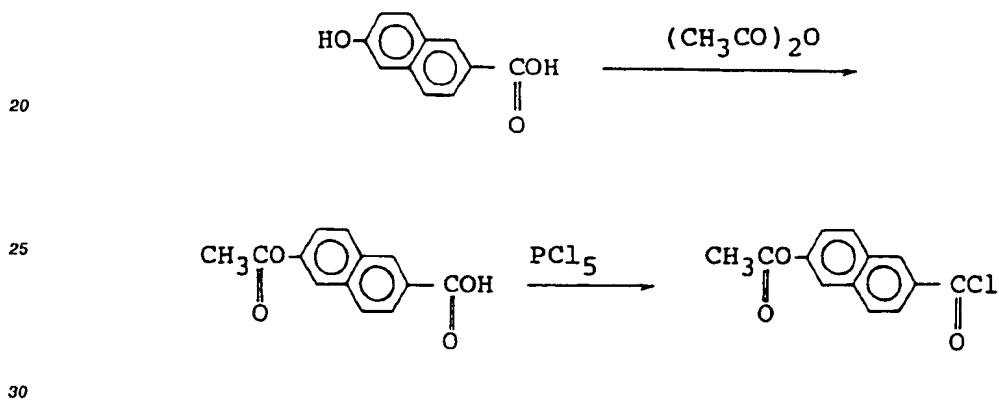
Phase transition temperature (°C)

5		Cryst.	$\xrightarrow[25.5]{73.5}$	N	$\xrightarrow[137.1]{138.4}$	Iso.
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10 Example 47

2-(6-hexyloxy-2-naphthyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-229) was synthesized through the following steps i) - iii).

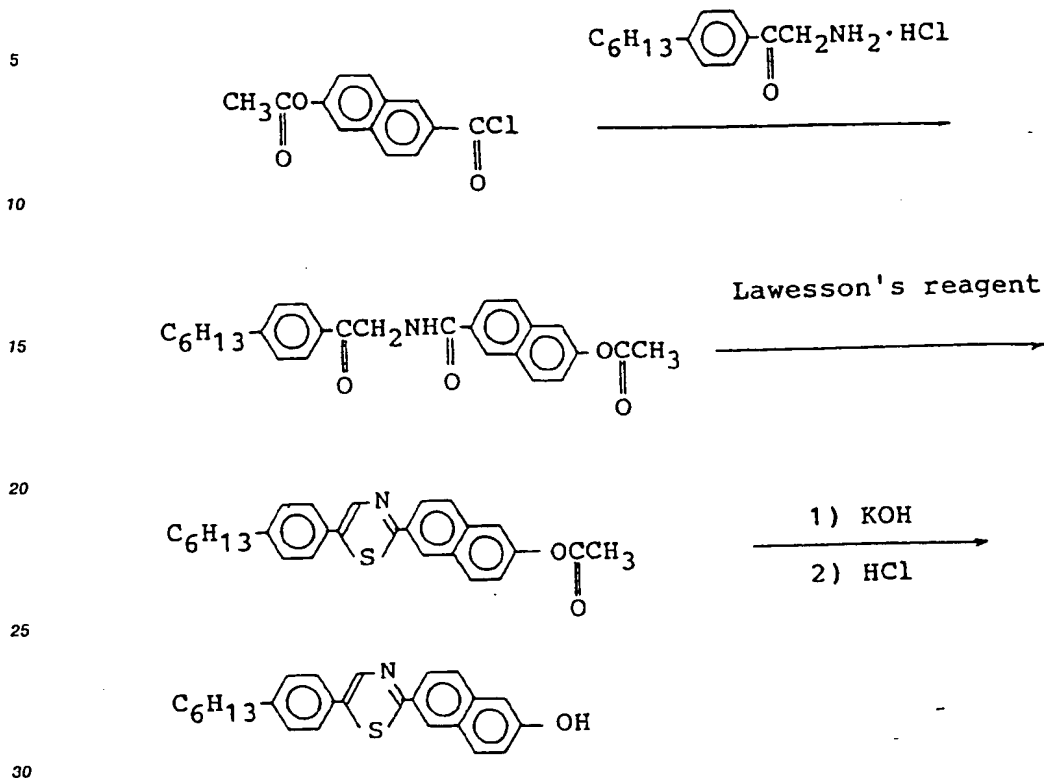
15 Step i)



In a 100 ml-reaction vessel, 16.7 g (2.53×10^{-1} M) of potassium hydroxide and 85 ml of water were placed, followed by cooling to 0 °C. To the mixture, 20.0 g (1.06×10^{-1} M) of 6-hydroxy-2-naphthoic acid was added and dissolved therein. To the solution, 10.9 g (1.07×10^{-1} M) of acetic anhydride was added dropwise in 40 minutes at 0 °C, followed by stirring for 2 hours. After stirring, the reaction mixture was acidified with 6N-hydrochloric acid to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, followed by washing with water and drying to obtain 18.3 g of 6-acetoxy-2-naphthoic acid (Yield: 74.4 %).

Then, in a 200 ml-reaction vessel, 17.1 g (7.43×10^{-2} M) of 6-acetoxy-2-naphthoic acid and 85 ml of dry benzene were placed. To the mixture, 15.9 g (6.91×10^{-2} M) of phosphorus pentachloride was added in 30 minutes at room temperature, followed by stirring for 4 hours at 60 °C. After cooling, the solvent of the reaction mixture was distilled off to provide oily 6-acetoxy-2-naphthoyl chloride.

Step ii)

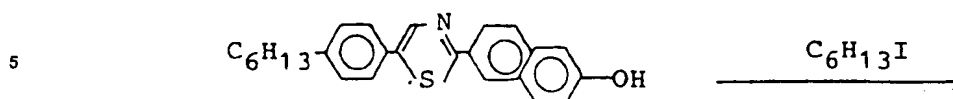


In a 300 ml-reaction vessel, 19.0 g (7.44×10^{-2} mol) of 4-hexylphenylamine hydrochloride prepared in Example 43 and 95 ml of dry pyridine were placed. To the mixture, a solution of the above-prepared 6'-acetoxy-2'-naphthoyl chloride in 50 ml of dry benzene was added dropwise in 35 minutes below 0°C , followed by stirring for 17 hours while gradually cooling to room temperature. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into ice water, followed by extraction with chloroform. The organic layer was washed with water and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, followed by distilling-off of the solvent. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: chloroform/ethyl acetate = 25/1) to obtain 14.0 g of 6'-acetoxy-2'-naphthoyl-4-hexylphenylamine (Yield: 43.7 %).

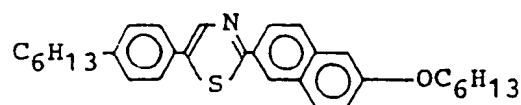
Then, in a 200 ml-reaction vessel, 13.7 g (3.18×10^{-2} M) of 6'-acetoxy-2'-naphthoyl-4-hexylphenylamine, 12.9 g (3.18×10^{-2} M) of Lawesson's reagent and 75 ml of toluene were placed, followed by heat-refluxing for 2 hours. After cooling, the reaction mixture was subjected to distilling-off of the solvent to provide a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: chloroform) to obtain 10.4 g of 2-(6-acetoxy-2-naphthyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 76.1 %).

Then, in a 300 ml-reaction vessel, 10.4 g (2.42×10^{-2} M) of 2-(6-acetoxy-2-naphthyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole and 170 ml of 0.5N-solution of potassium hydroxide in ethanol, followed by stirring for 0.5 hour at 60°C . After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into 400 ml of ice water and acidified with 6N-hydrochloric acid to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration, washed with water and dissolved in ethanol, followed by treatment with activated carbon. The activated carbon was removed from the above mixture by filtration and the filtrate was condensed, followed by drying to provide a residue. The residue was recrystallized from ethanol to obtain 7.73 g of 2-(6-hydroxy-2-naphthyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Yield: 82.6 %).

Step iii)

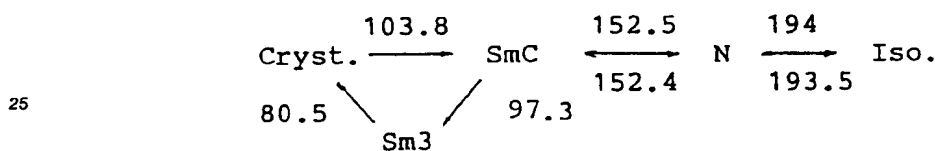


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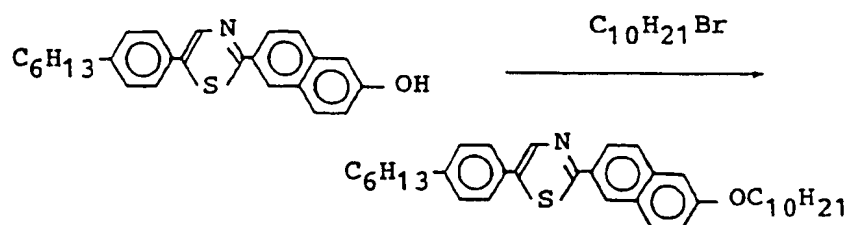
15

2-(6-hexyloxy-2-naphthyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole was prepared in the same manner as in Example 31 (Yield: 51.0 %).

20 Phase transition temperature (°C)30 Example 48

2-(6-decyloxy-2-naphthyl)-5-(4-hexylphenyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-231) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 47 (Yield: 53.0 %).

35



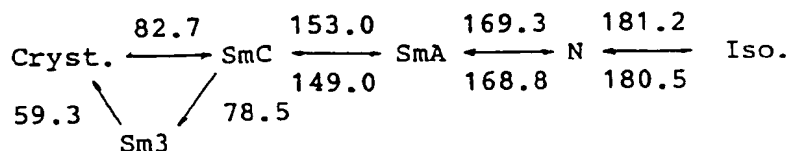
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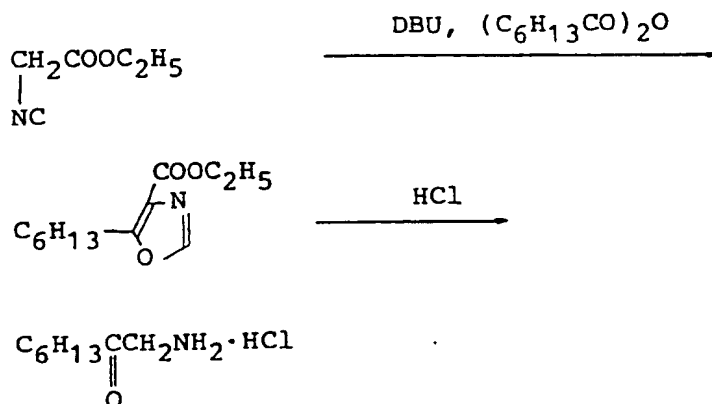
Phase transition temperature (°C)



Example 49

2-(6-decyloxy-2-naphthyl)-5-hexylthiazole (Example Compound No. 1-237) was synthesized through the following steps i) and ii).

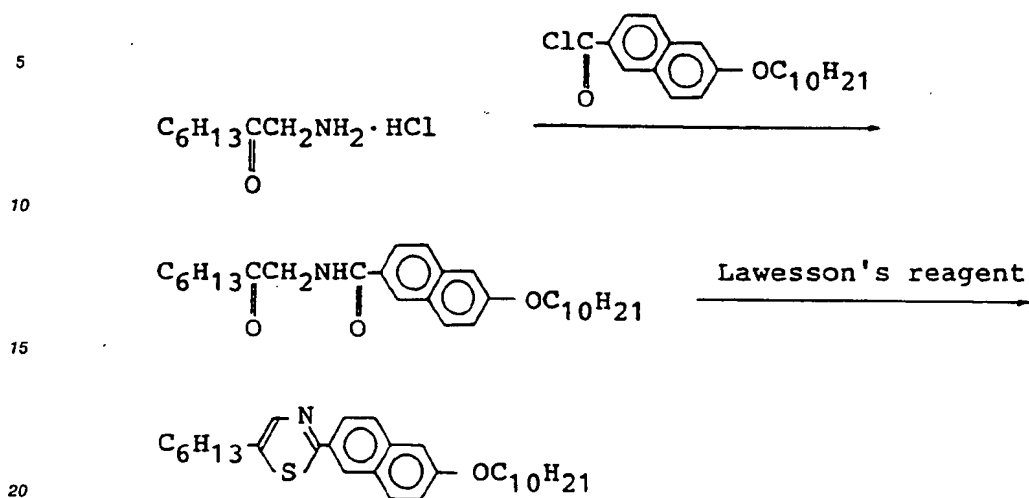
Step i)



2-oxooctylamine hydrochloride was prepared in the following manner according to a method shown in "J. Org. Chem.", 38, 3571-3575 (1973).

In a 100 ml-three-necked flask, 2.26 g (20.0 mM) of ethylisocynoacetate and 27 ml of tetrahydrofuran were placed. To the mixture, 2.99 ml (20.0 mM) of 1,8-diazobicyclo[5.4.0]-7-undecene (DBU) was added on an ice water bath under stirring. To the mixture, a solution of 4.84 g (20.0 mM) of heptanoic anhydride in 7 ml of tetrahydrofuran was added dropwise on the ice water bath under stirring, followed by stirring for 4.5 hours at room temperature. The reaction mixture was further left standing for 2 days at room temperature. The resultant reaction mixture was poured into water, followed by extraction with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate and further dried under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: toluene/ethyl acetate = 100/1) to provide 4.28 g of ethyl 5-hexyloxazole-4-carboxylate (Yield: 95.1 %). Then, 2.10 g (9.32 mM) of ethyl 5-hexyloxazole-4-carboxylate and 28.4 ml of 6N-hydrochloric acid were placed in a 100 ml-round-bottomed flask, followed by heat-refluxing for 5 hours under stirring. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was washed two times with ethyl acetate. The water layer was dried under reduced pressure. The residue was recrystallized from a mixture solvent of methanol-isopropyl ether to obtain 0.67 g of 2-oxooctylamine hydrochloride (Yield: 40.0 %).

Step ii)

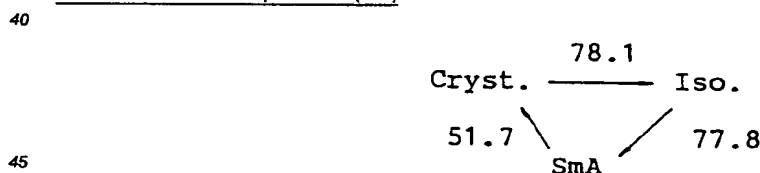


25 In a 50 ml-three-necked flask, 0.20 g (1.11 mM) of 2-oxooctylamine hydrochloride, 0.46 g (1.33 mM) of 6-decyloxy-2-naphthoyl chloride and 5 ml of dioxane were placed. To the mixture, 1.6 ml of pyridine was added at about 85 °C under heat-stirring, followed by heat-stirring for 30 minutes at 92 - 94 °C. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration and washed with water, followed by recrystallization from a mixture solvent of acetone-methanol to provide 0.41 g of 2-oxooctyl-(6-decyloxy-2-naphthoyl)amine (Yield: 81.2 %).

30 Then, 0.40 g (0.88 mM) of 2-oxooctyl-(6-decyloxy-2-naphthoyl)amine, 0.38 g (0.94 mM) of Lawesson's reagent and 6 ml of tetrahydrofuran were placed in a 30 ml-round-bottomed flask, followed by heat-refluxing for 45 minutes under stirring. After the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into a solution of 0.27 g of sodium hydroxide in 70 ml of ice water to precipitate a crystal. The crystal was recovered by filtration washed with water and dissolved in toluene, followed by drying with anhydrous sodium sulfate and distilling-off of the solvent under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: toluene/hexane = 1/1) and recrystallized from a mixture solvent of acetone-methanol to obtain 0.21 g of 2-(6-decyloxy-2-naphthyl)-5-hexylthiazole (Yield: 52.7 %).

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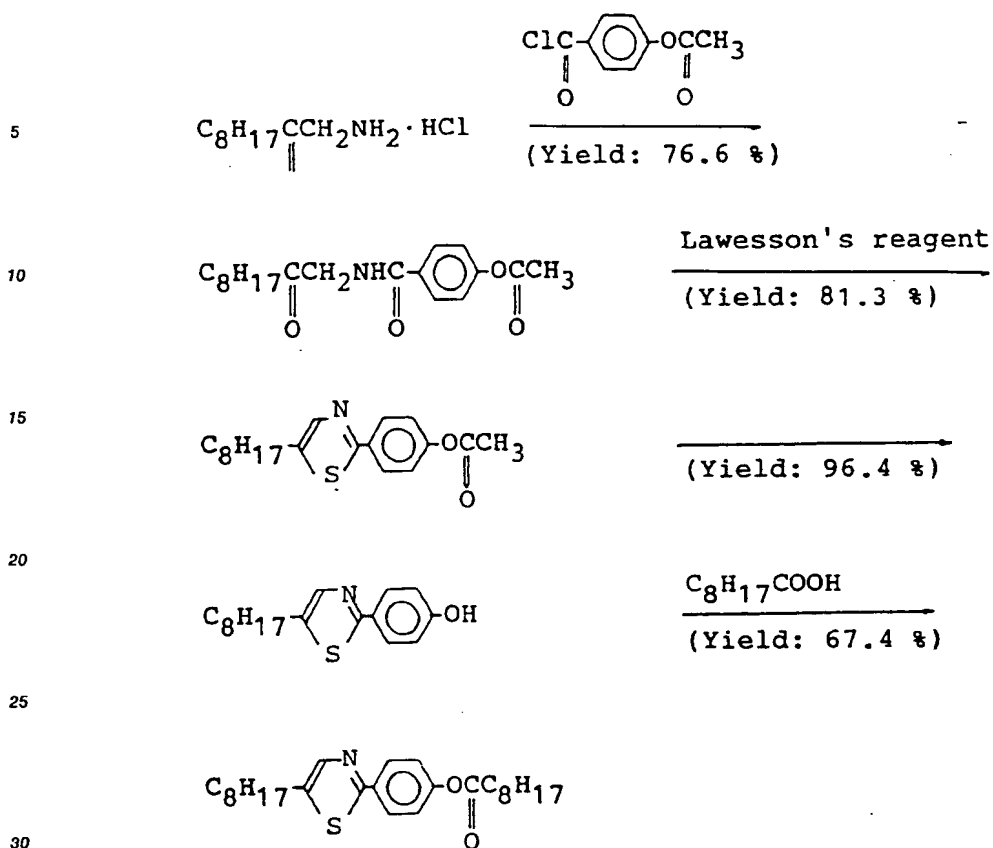
40 Phase transition temperature (°C)



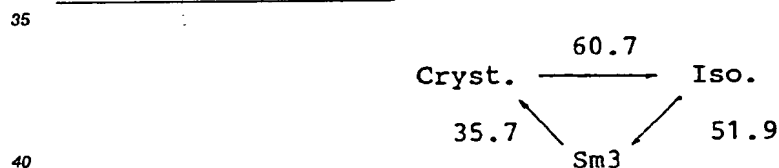
50 Example 50

2-(4-nanonoyloxyphenyl)-5-octylthiazole (Example Compound No. 1-235) was synthesized through the following reaction schemes in the same manner as in Example 43 by using 2-oxodecylamine hydrochloride prepared in the same manner as in Example 49.

55



Phase transition temperature (°C)

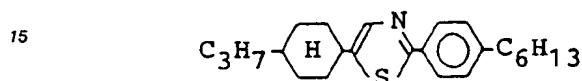
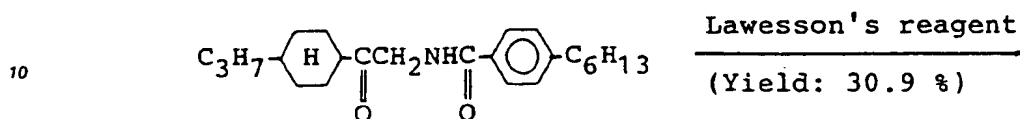
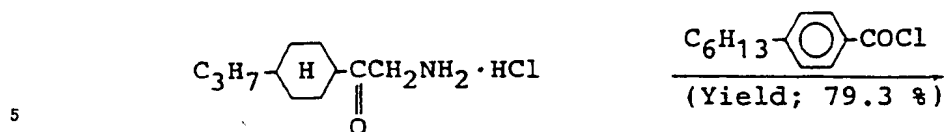


Example 51

45 2-(4-hexylphenyl)-5-(trans-4-propylcyclohexyl)thiazole (Example Compound NO. 1-238) was synthesized through the following reaction schemes.

50

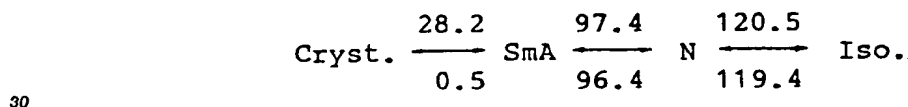
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20 2-(trans-4-propylcyclohexyl)-2-oxoethylamine hydrochloride was prepared in the same manner as in Example 49 by using trans-4-propylcyclohexanecarboxylic anhydride prepared from trans-4-propylcyclohexanecarboxylic acid prepared in the same manner as in a method shown in "Org. Syn. Coll.", vol. 3, 28.

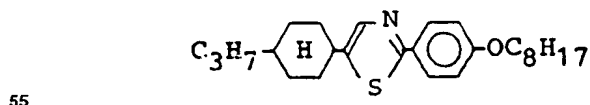
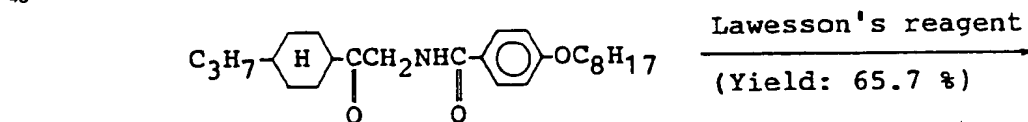
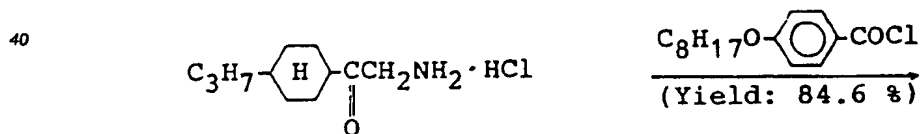
Then, 2-(4-hexyloxyphenyl)-5-(trans-4-propylcyclohexyl)thiazole was prepared from 2-(trans-4-propylcyclohexyl)-2-oxoethylamine according to the above reaction schemes.

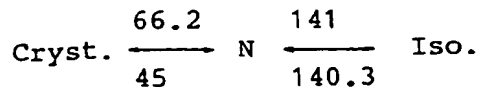
25 Phase transition temperature (°C)



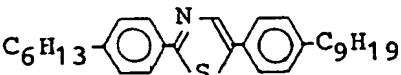
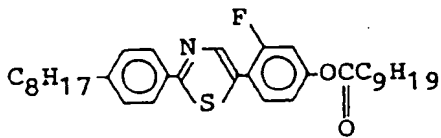
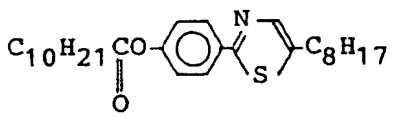
Example 52

35 2-(4-octyloxyphenyl)-5-(trans-4-propylcyclohexyl)thiazole (Example Compound No. 1-240) was prepared in the same manner as in Example 51.



Phase transition temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)Example 53

A liquid crystal composition S was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition F prepared in Example 14.

<u>Ex.Comp.No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt.parts</u>
1-12		2
1-219		3
1-236		2
	Composition F	93

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition S was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time. The results of the measurement are shown below.

	<u>10$^{\circ}\text{C}$</u>	<u>25$^{\circ}\text{C}$</u>	<u>40$^{\circ}\text{C}$</u>
Response time (μsec)	730	355	192

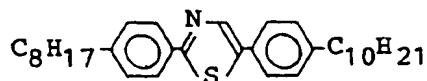
Example 54

A liquid crystal composition T was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition F prepared in Example 14.

Ex.Comp.No.Structural formulawt.parts

5

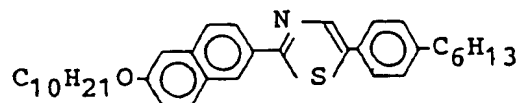
1-210



3

10

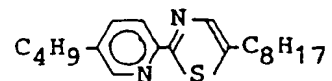
1-231



3

15

1-247



2

20

Composition F

92

25

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition T was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time. The results of the measurement are shown below.

30

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	712	343	188

35

Example 55

40

A liquid crystal composition U was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition O prepared in Example 21.

45

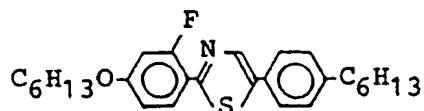
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55

Ex.Comp.No.Structural formulawt.parts

5

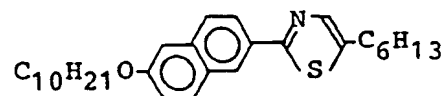
1-227



2

10

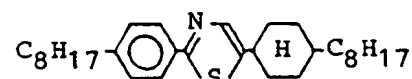
1-237



3

15

1-239



2

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Composition O

93

25

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition U was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time and observation of switching states. In the device, a monodomain with a good and uniform alignment characteristic was observed. The results of the measurement are shown below.

30

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	633	329	180

35

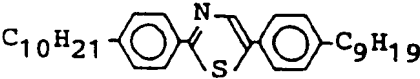
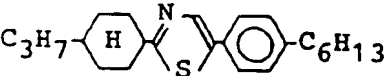
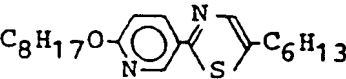
Example 56

A liquid crystal composition V was prepared by mixing the following example compounds in the indicated proportions with the liquid crystal composition O prepared in Example 21.

45

50

55

<u>Ex. Comp. No.</u>	<u>Structural formula</u>	<u>wt. parts</u>
1-215		3
1-241		2
1-248		2
Composition O		93

A ferroelectric liquid crystal device was prepared in the same manner as in Example 12 except that the above liquid crystal composition V was used, and the device was subjected to measurement of optical response time and observation of switching states. In the device, a monodomain with a good and uniform alignment characteristic was observed. The results of the measurement are shown below.

	<u>10°C</u>	<u>25°C</u>	<u>40°C</u>
Response time (μsec)	618	321	176

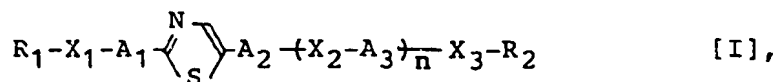
As is apparent from the results shown in the above Examples 53 - 56, the ferroelectric liquid crystal devices containing the liquid crystal compositions S, T, U and V showed an improved low-temperature operation characteristic, a high-speed responsiveness, and a decreased temperature dependence of the response speed.

As described hereinabove, according to the present invention, there are provided a mesomorphic compound, a liquid crystal composition containing the compound, and a liquid crystal device using the composition which shows a good switching characteristic, an improved low-temperature operation characteristic and a decreased temperature-dependence of response speed. According to the present invention, there is also provided a display apparatus utilizing the liquid crystal device of the present invention as a display unit, which shows good display characteristics in combination with a light source, a drive circuit, etc.

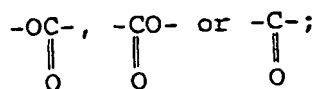
Claims

Claims for the following Contracting States : AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE

1. A mesomorphic compound represented by the following formula (I):



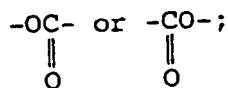
wherein R_1 and R_2 respectively denote an alkyl group having 2 - 16 carbon atoms capable of having a substituent; X_1 and X_3 respectively denote a single bond, -O-,



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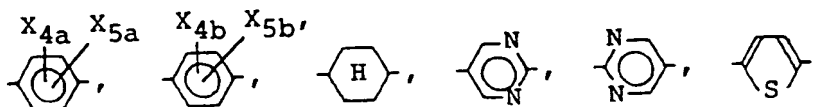
X_2 denotes a single bond,

10

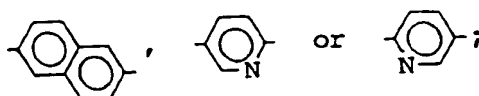


A_1 and A_2 respectively denote a single bond,

15



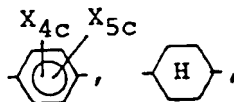
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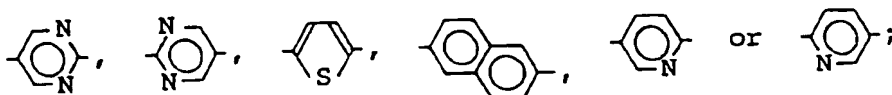
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A_3 denotes

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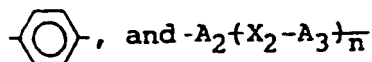


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X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} , X_{5b} , X_{4c} and X_{5c} respectively denote hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CN}$ or $-\text{CF}_3$; and n is 0 or 1, with proviso that: X_1 always denotes a single bond when A_1 denotes a single bond, X_3 always denotes a single bond when A_2 denotes a single bond and n is 0; A_1 and A_2 cannot be single bonds simultaneously; X_3 cannot be $-\text{O}-$ when X_1 denotes a single bond or $-\text{O}-$, A_1 denotes a single bond or

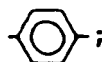
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denotes

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and X_1 cannot be a single bond when A_1 denotes



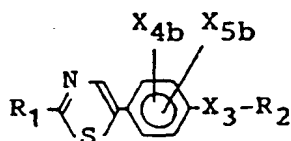
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and A_2 denotes a single bond and n is 0.

2. A mesomorphic compound according to Claim 1, which is represented by any one of the following formulas [Ia] - [Iq]:

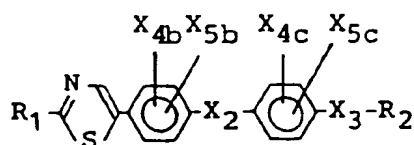
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[Ia],

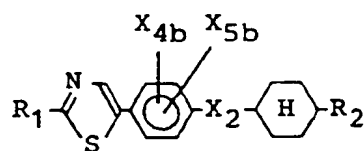
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[Ib],

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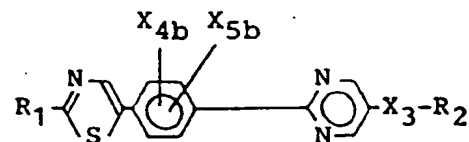
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[Ic],

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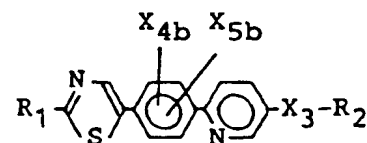
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[Id],

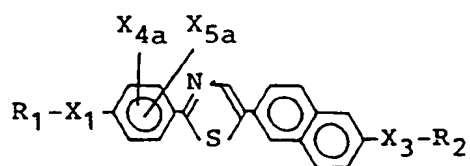
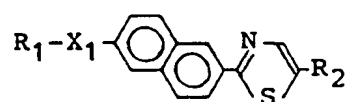
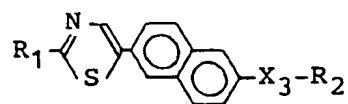
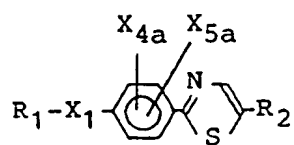
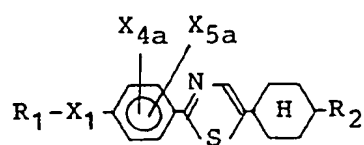
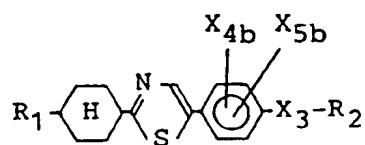
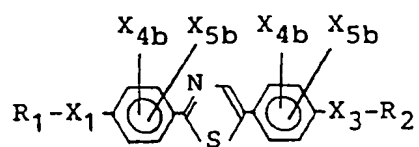
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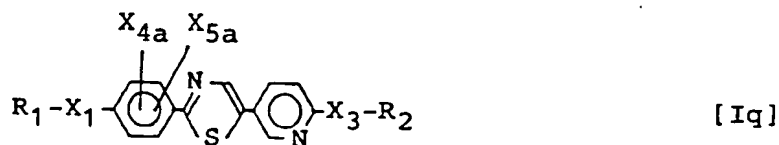
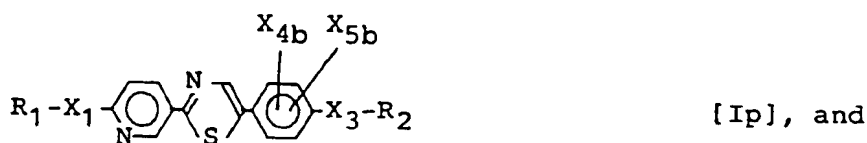
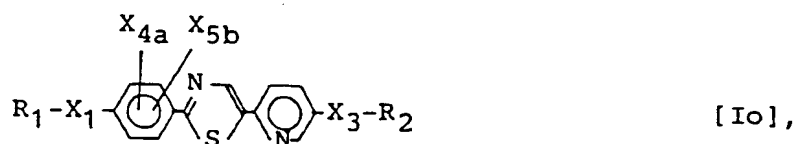
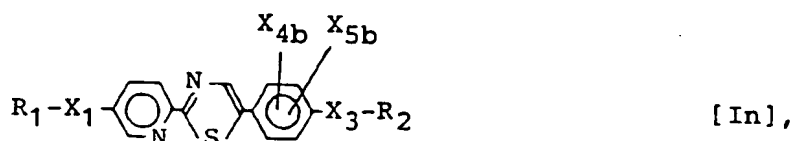
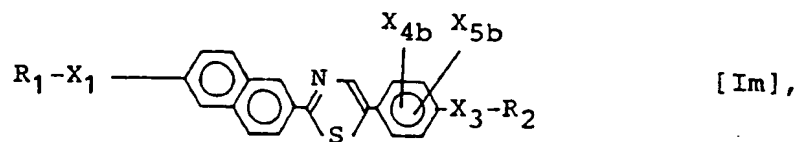
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[Ie],

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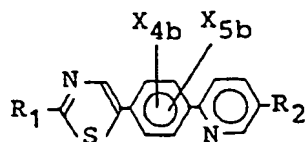
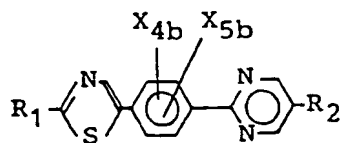
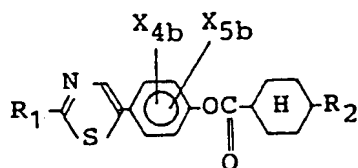
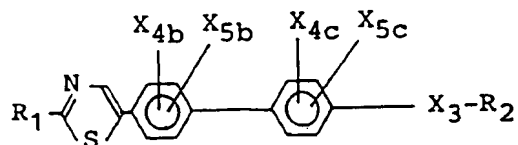
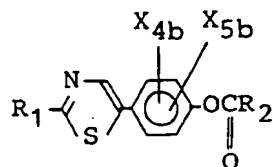
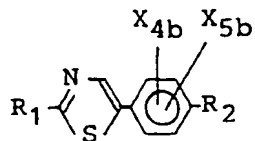


30 with proviso that X₃ cannot be -O- when X_{4b} and X_{5b} are both hydrogen in the formula [Ia], and when X_{4a}, X_{5a}, X_{4b} and X_{5b} and all hydrogen in the formula [If]; and X₁ cannot be a single bond when X_{4a} and X_{5a} are both hydrogen in the formula [Ii].

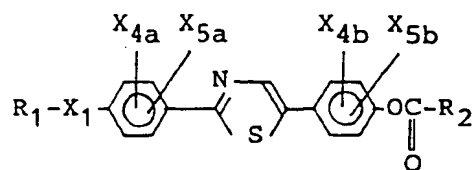
- 35 3. A mesomorphic compound according to Claim 1, which is represented by any one of the following formulas [Iaa] - [Iia]:

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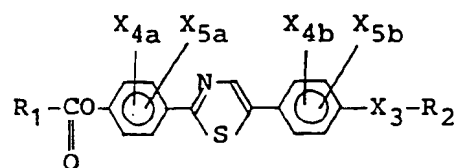


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[Ifa],

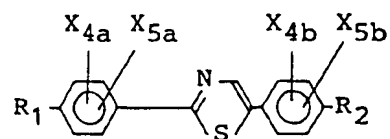
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[Ifb],

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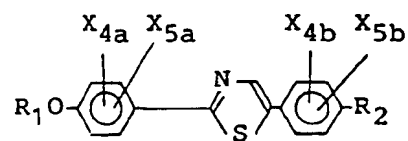
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[Ifc],

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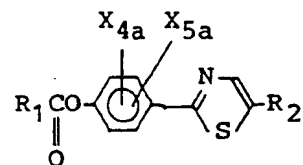
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[Ifd],

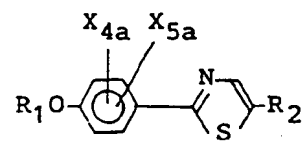
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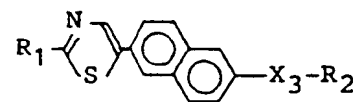
[Iia],

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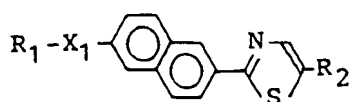
[Iib],

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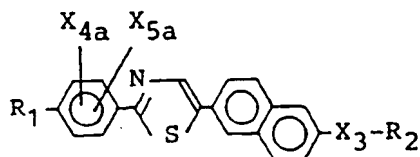


[Ija],

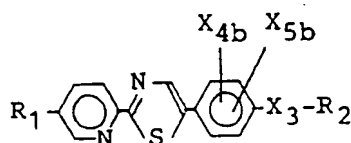
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[Ika],



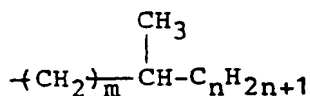
[Ila], and



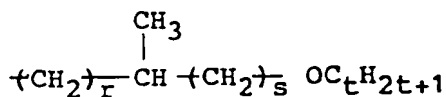
[Ina].

4. A mesomorphic compound according to Claim 1, wherein R_1 and R_2 respectively denote any one of the following groups (i) - (iv):

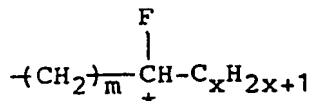
- (i) an n-alkyl group having 4 - 14 carbon atoms;
(ii)



- wherein m is an integer of 0 - 6 and n is an integer of 2 - 8;
(iii)



- wherein r is an integer of 0 - 6, s is 0 or 1 and t is an integer of 1 - 12; and
(iv)



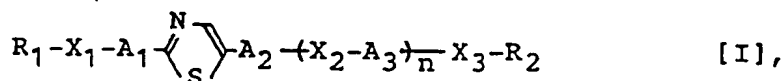
- wherein m is 0 or 1 and x is an integer of 1 - 14.

5. A liquid crystal composition comprising at least two mesomorphic compounds, at least one of which is a mesomorphic compound of the formula (I) according to any one of Claims 1 - 4.

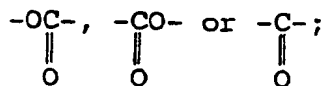
6. A liquid crystal composition according to Claim 5, which comprises 1 - 500 wt. parts of a mesomorphic compound of the formula (I) per 100 wt. parts of at least one species of another mesomorphic compound other than the mesomorphic compound of the formula (I).
7. A liquid crystal composition according to Claim 5, which comprises 1 - 500 wt. parts of two or more species of mesomorphic compounds of the formula (I) per 100 wt. parts of at least one species of another mesomorphic compound other than the mesomorphic compound of the formula (I).
8. A liquid crystal composition according to Claim 5, which assumes a chiral smectic phase.
9. A liquid crystal device, comprising a pair of electrode plates and a liquid crystal composition according to Claim 5 disposed between the electrode plates.
10. A liquid crystal device according to Claim 9, which further comprises an insulating alignment control layer.
11. A display apparatus comprising a liquid crystal device according to Claim 9, and voltage application means for driving the liquid crystal device.
12. A display apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the liquid crystal device constitutes a display panel wherein the alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules is switched by utilizing ferroelectricity of the liquid crystal composition to effect display.
13. A display method comprising:
 - providing a liquid crystal composition according to Claim 5 having ferroelectricity, and
 - switching the alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules based on the ferroelectricity of the liquid crystal composition to effect display.
14. A display method, comprising:
 - providing a liquid crystal device according to Claim 9, and
 - switching the alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules to effect display based on the ferroelectricity of the liquid crystal composition contained in the liquid crystal device.

Claims for the following Contracting State : ES

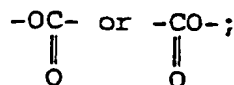
1. The use of a mesomorphic compound represented by the following formula (I) in a liquid crystal composition:



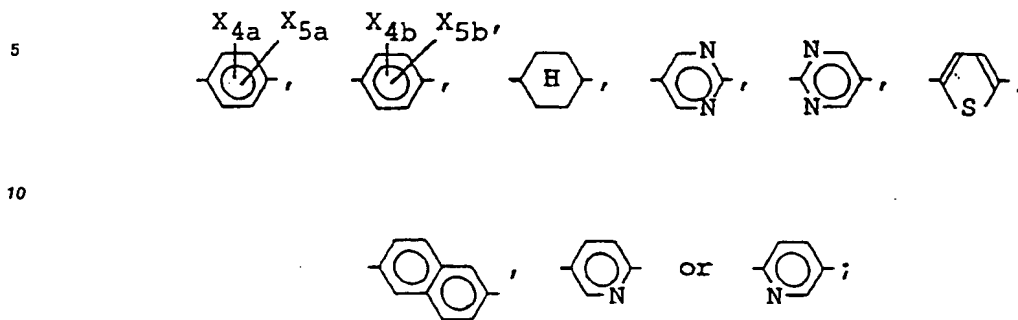
wherein R_1 and R_2 respectively denote an alkyl group having 2 - 16 carbon atoms capable of having a substituent; X_1 and X_3 respectively denote a single bond, -O-,



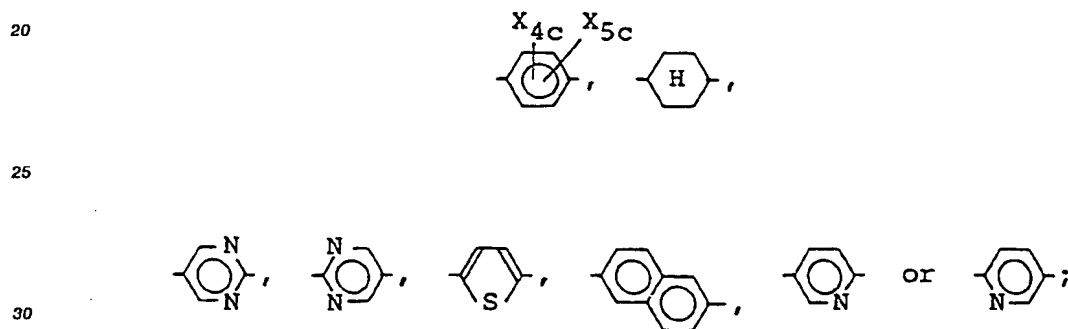
X_2 denotes a single bond,



A₁ and A₂ respectively denote a single bond,



A₃ denotes



35 X_{4a}, X_{5a}, X_{4b}, X_{5b}, X_{4c} and X_{5c} respectively denote hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, -CH₃, -CN or -CF₃; and n is 0 or 1, with proviso that: X₁ always denotes a single bond when A₁ denotes a single bond, X₃ always denotes a single bond when A₂ denotes a single bond and n is 0; A₁ and A₂ cannot be single bonds simultaneously; X₃ cannot be -O- when X₁ denotes a single bond or -O-, A₁ denotes a single bond or



denotes

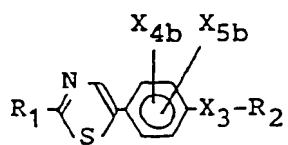


and X₁ cannot be a single bond when A₁ denotes

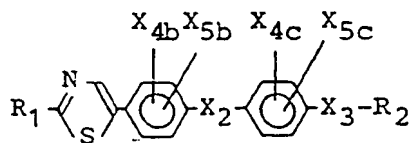


55 and A₂ denotes a single bond and n is 0.

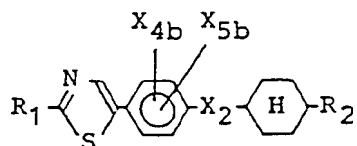
2. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the mesomorphic compound is represented by any one of the following formulas [Ia] - [Iq]:



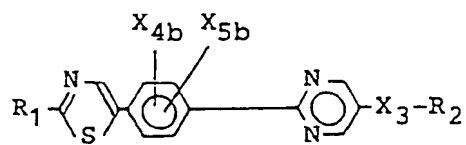
[Ia],



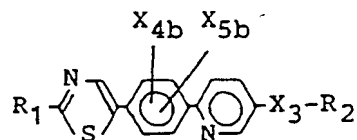
[Ib],



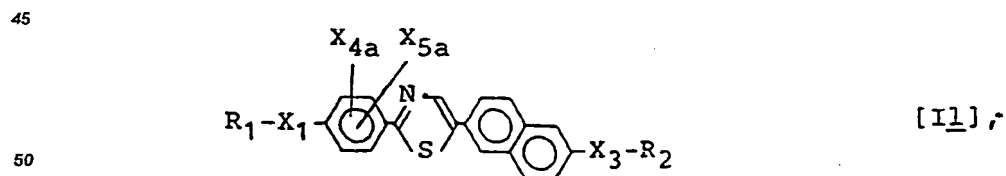
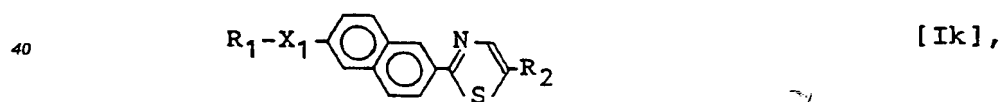
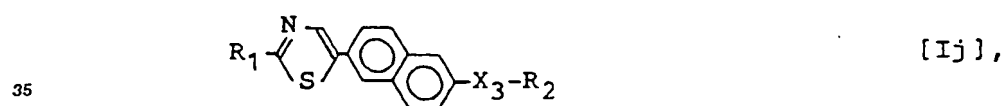
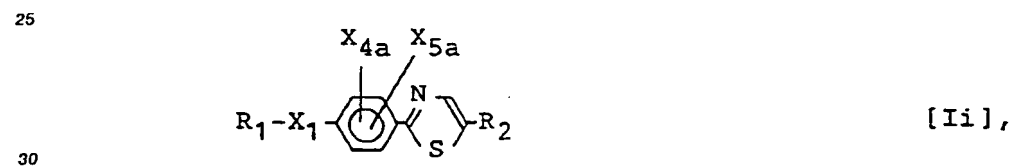
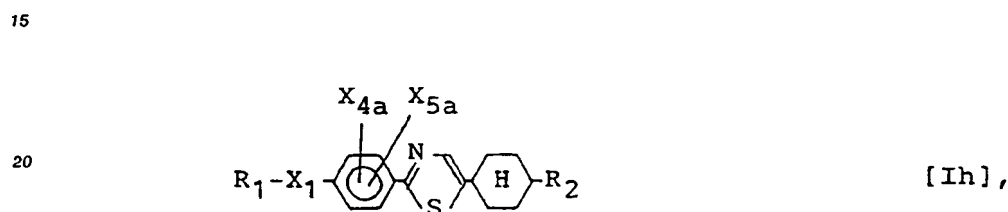
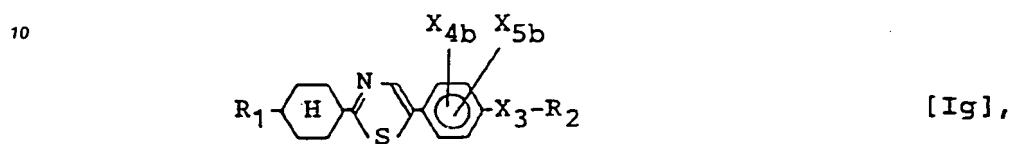
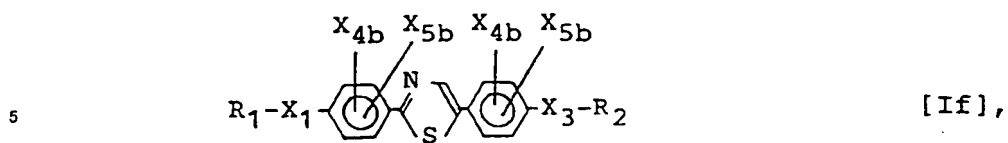
[Ic],

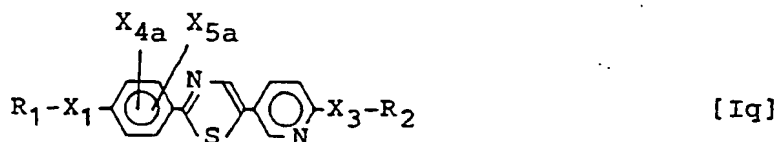
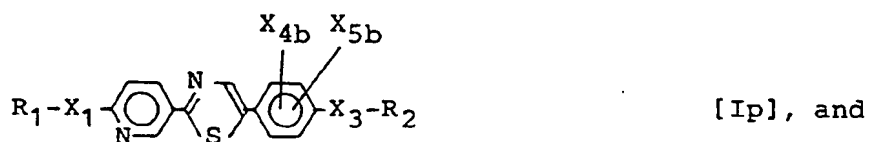
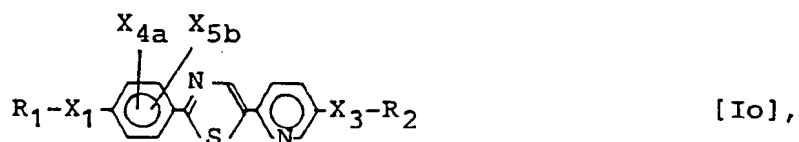
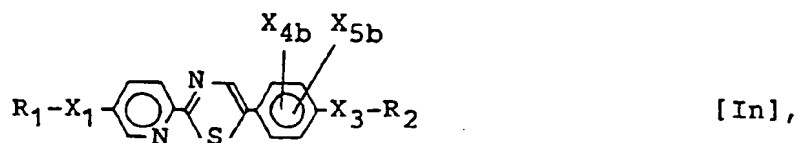
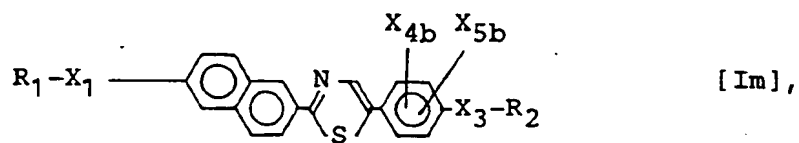


[Id],



[Ie],





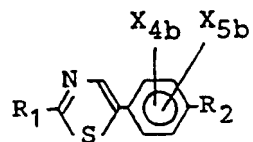
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with proviso that X_3 cannot be -O- when X_{4b} and X_{5b} are both hydrogen in the formula [Ia], and when X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} and X_{5b} and all hydrogen in the formula [If]; and X_1 cannot be a single bond when X_{4a} and X_{5a} are both hydrogen in the formula [Ii].

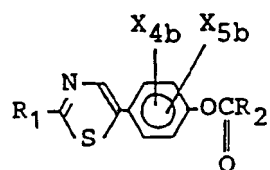
- 35
- 40
- 45 3. The use according to Claim 1, wherein the mesomorphic compound is represented by any one of the following formulas [Iaa] - [Iia]:

50

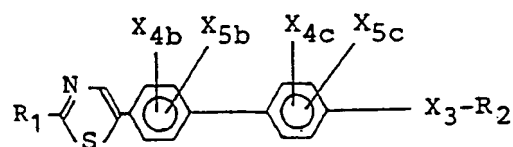
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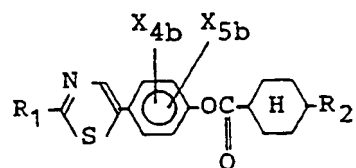
[Iaa],



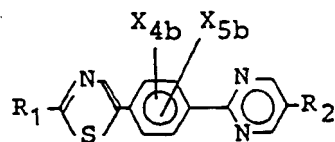
[Iab],



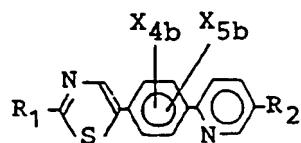
[Iba],



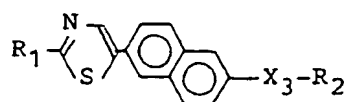
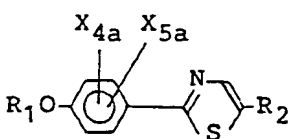
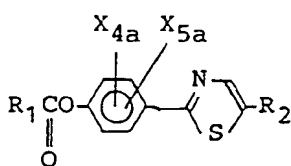
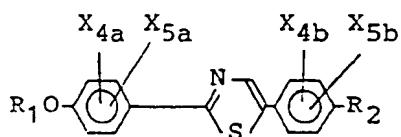
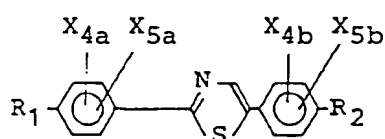
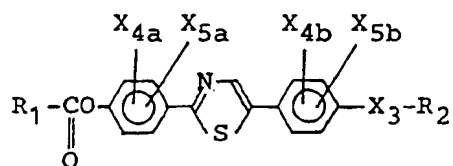
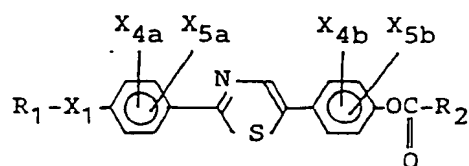
[Ica],

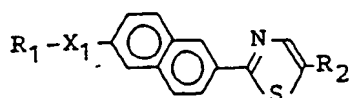


[Ida],

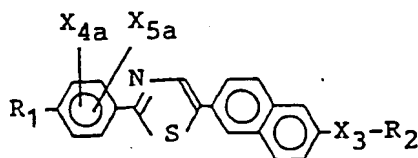


[Iea],

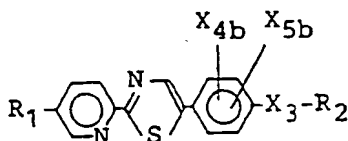




[Ika],

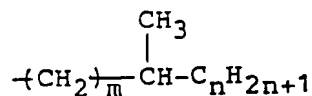


[IIa], and



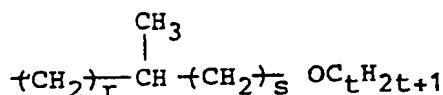
[Ina].

4. The use according to Claim 1, wherein R₁ and R₂ of the mesomorphic compound used respectively denote any one of the followings groups (i) - (iv):
- (i) an n-alkyl group having 4 - 14 carbon atoms;
 - (ii)



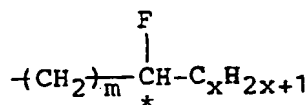
wherein m is an integer of 0 - 6 and n is an integer of 2 - 8;

(iii)



wherein r is an integer of 0 - 6, s is 0 or 1 and t is an integer of 1 - 12; and

(iv)



wherein m is 0 or 1 and x is an integer of 1 - 14.

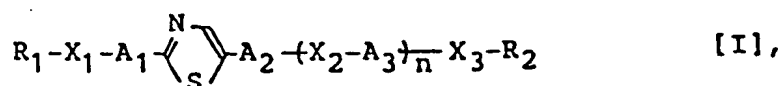
5. The use of at least one mesomorphic compound of the formula (I) according to any one of Claims 1 - 4 in a liquid crystal composition comprising at least two mesomorphic compounds.

6. The use according to Claim 5, wherein the liquid crystal composition comprises 1 - 500 wt. parts of a mesomorphic compound of the formula (I) per 100 wt. parts of at least one species of another mesomorphic compound other than the mesomorphic compound of the formula (I).
7. The use according to Claim 5, wherein the liquid crystal composition comprises 1 - 500 wt. parts of two or more species of mesomorphic compounds of the formula (I) per 100 wt. parts of at least one species of another mesomorphic compound other than the mesomorphic compound of the formula (I).
8. The use according to Claim 5, wherein the liquid crystal composition assumes a chiral smectic phase.
9. A liquid crystal device, comprising a pair of electrode plates and a liquid crystal composition according to Claim 5 disposed between the electrode plates.
10. A liquid crystal device according to Claim 9, which further comprises an insulating alignment control layer.
11. A display apparatus comprising a liquid crystal device according to Claim 9, and voltage application means for driving the liquid crystal device.
12. A display apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the liquid crystal device constitutes a display panel wherein the alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules is switched by utilizing ferroelectricity of the liquid crystal composition to effect display.
13. A display method comprising:
providing a liquid crystal composition according to Claim 5 having ferroelectricity, and
switching the alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules based on the ferroelectricity of the liquid crystal composition to effect display.
14. A display method, comprising:
providing a liquid crystal device according to Claim 9, and
switching the alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules to effect display based on the ferroelectricity of the liquid crystal composition contained in the liquid crystal device.

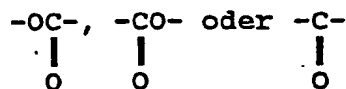
Patentansprüche

Patentansprüche für folgende Vertragsstaaten : AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE

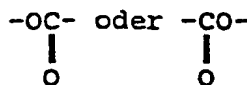
1. Mesomorphe Verbindung, die durch die folgende Formel (I) wiedergegeben wird:



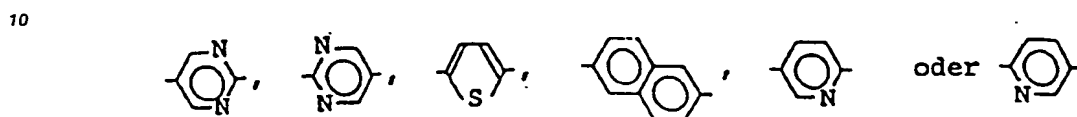
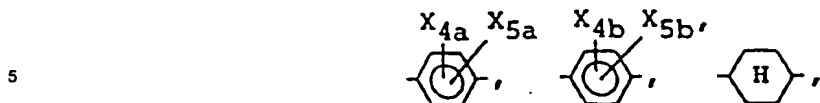
worin R_1 und R_2 jeweils eine Alkylgruppe mit 2 bis 16 Kohlenstoffatomen bezeichnen, die einen Substituenten haben kann; X_1 und X_3 jeweils eine Einfachbindung, -O-,



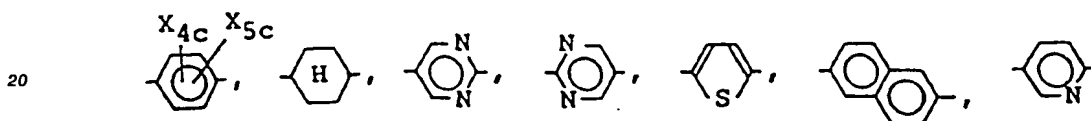
bezeichnen; X_2 eine Einfachbindung,



bezeichnet; A₁ und A₂ jeweils eine Einfachbindung,



15
bezeichnen; A₃



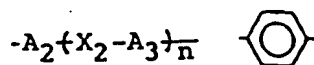
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oder



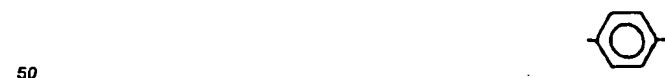
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bezeichnet; X_{4a}, X_{5a}, X_{4b}, X_{5b}, X_{4c} und X_{5c} jeweils Wasserstoff, Fluor, Chlor, Brom, -CH₃, -CN oder -CF₃ bezeichnen und n 0 oder 1 ist, wobei vorausgesetzt ist, daß: X₁ immer eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet, wenn A₁ eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet; X₃ immer eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet, wenn A₂ eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet und n 0 ist; A₁ und A₂ nicht gleichzeitig Einfachbindungen sein können; X₃ nicht -O- sein kann, wenn X₁ eine Einfachbindung oder -O- bezeichnet, A₁ eine Einfachbindung oder



40
bezeichnet und



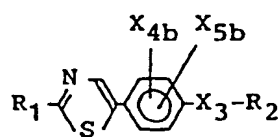
bezeichnet und X₁ keine Einfachbindung sein kann, wenn A₁



bezeichnet und A₂ eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet und n 0 ist.

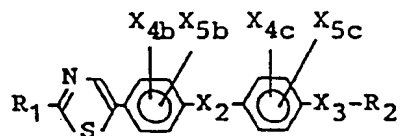
2. Mesomorphe Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, die durch irgendeine der folgenden Formeln [Ia] bis [Iq]
55 wiedergegeben wird:

5



[Ia],

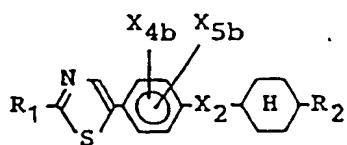
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[Ib],

15

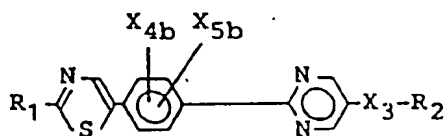
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[Ic],

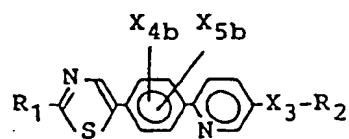
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[Id],

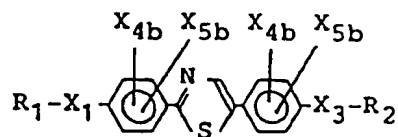
35



[Ie],

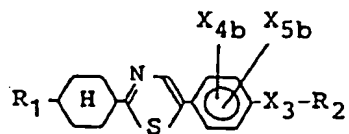
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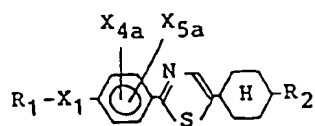
[If],

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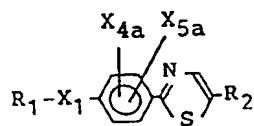


[Ig],

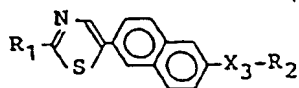
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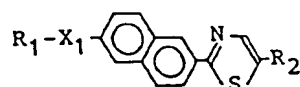
[Ih],



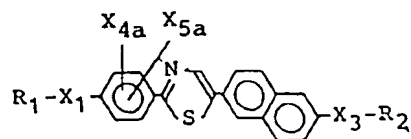
[Ii],



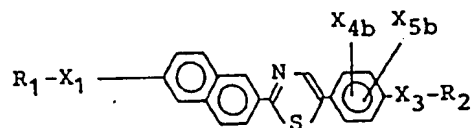
[Ij],



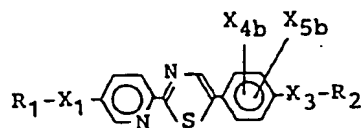
[Ik],



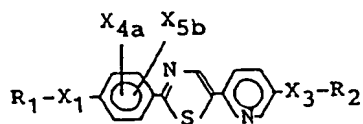
[Il],



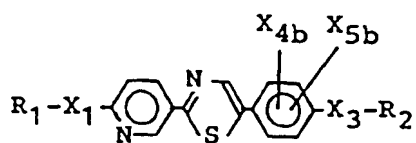
[Im],



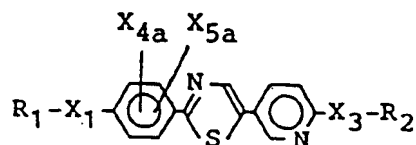
[In],



[Io],



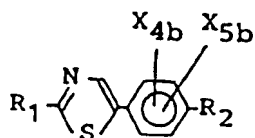
[Ip] und



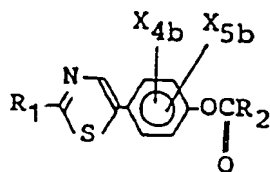
[Iq]

wobei vorausgesetzt ist, daß X_3 nicht -O- sein kann, wenn X_{4b} und X_{5b} in der Formel [Ia] beide Wasserstoff bedeuten und wenn X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} und X_{5b} in der Formel [If] alle Wasserstoff bedeuten, und X_1 keine Einfachbindung sein kann, wenn X_{4a} und X_{5a} in der Formel [Ii] beide Wasserstoff bedeuten.

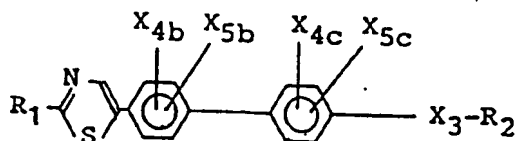
3. Mesomorphe Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, die durch irgendeine der folgenden Formeln [Iaa] bis [Ica] wiedergegeben wird:



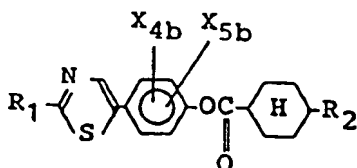
[Iaa],



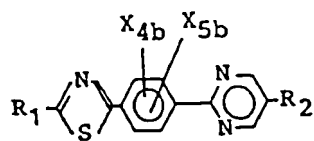
[Iab],



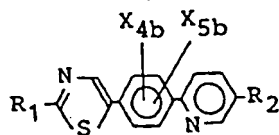
[Iba],



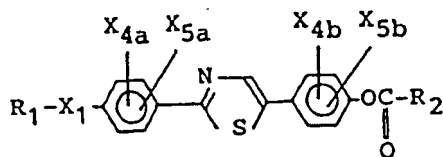
[Ica],



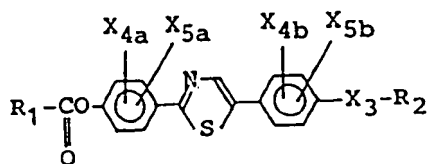
[Ida],



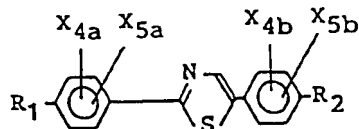
[Iea],



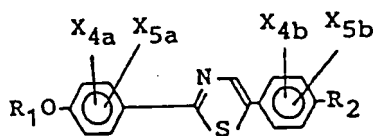
[Ifa],



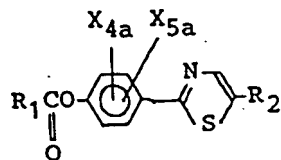
[Ifb],



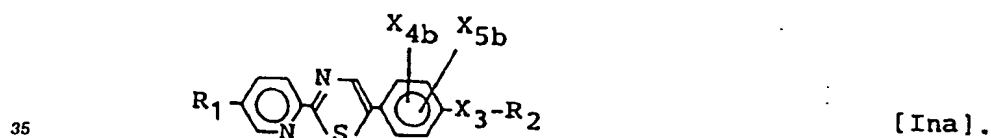
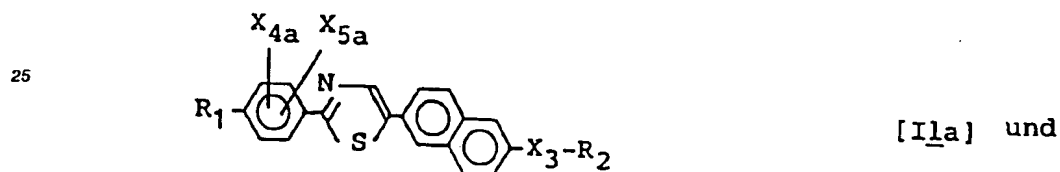
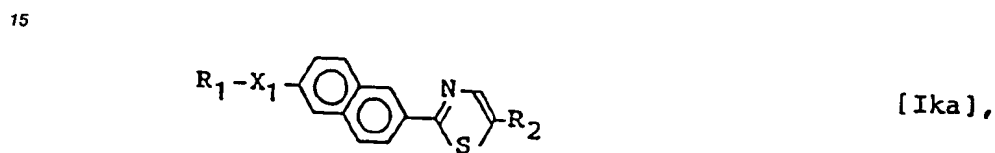
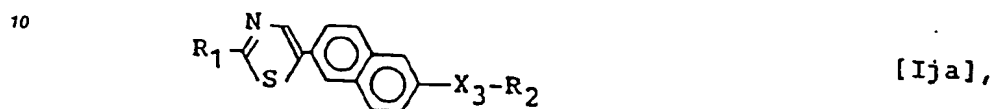
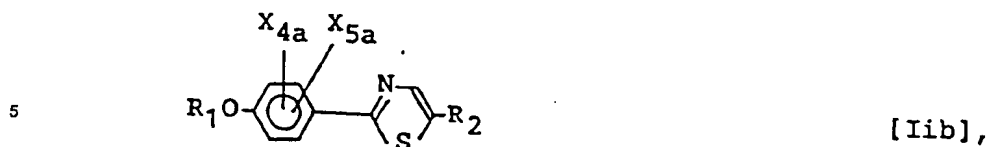
[Ifc],



[Ifd],



[Iia],

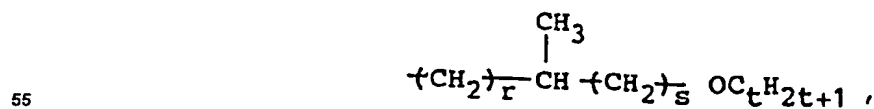


4. Mesomorphe Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, bei der R₁ und R₂ jeweils irgendeine der folgenden Gruppen (i) bis (iv) bezeichnen:

- (i) eine n-Alkylgruppe mit 4 bis 14 Kohlenstoffatomen;
(ii)

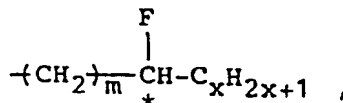


50 worin m eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 6 ist und n eine ganze Zahl von 2 bis 8 ist;
(iii)



worin r eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 6 ist, s 0 oder 1 ist und t eine ganze Zahl von 1 bis 12 ist; und

(iv)

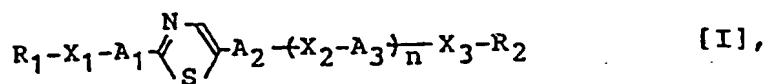


worin m 0 oder 1 ist und x eine ganze Zahl von 1 bis 14 ist.

5. Flüssigkristallmischung, die mindestens zwei mesomorphe Verbindungen umfaßt, von denen mindestens eine eine mesomorphe Verbindung der Formel (I) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4 ist.
6. Flüssigkristallmischung nach Anspruch 5, die pro 100 Masseteile mindestens einer Spezies einer anderen, mesomorphen Verbindung, die von der mesomorphen Verbindung der Formel (I) verschieden ist, 1 bis 500 Masseteile einer mesomorphen Verbindung der Formel (I) umfaßt.
7. Flüssigkristallmischung nach Anspruch 5, die pro 100 Masseteile mindestens einer Spezies einer anderen mesomorphen Verbindung, die von der mesomorphen Verbindung der Formel (I) verschieden ist, 1 bis 500 Masseteile von zwei oder mehr Spezies von mesomorphen Verbindungen der Formel (I) umfaßt.
8. Flüssigkristallmischung nach Anspruch 5, die eine chirale smektische Phase annimmt.
9. Flüssigkristallvorrichtung, die ein Paar Elektrodenplatten und eine Flüssigkristallmischung nach Anspruch 5, die zwischen den Elektrodenplatten angeordnet ist, umfaßt.
10. Flüssigkristallvorrichtung nach Anspruch 9, die ferner eine isolierende Ausrichtungseinstellungsschicht umfaßt.
11. Anzeigegerät, das eine Flüssigkristallvorrichtung nach Anspruch 9 und eine Einrichtung zum Anlegen einer Spannung für die Ansteuerung der Flüssigkristallvorrichtung umfaßt.
12. Anzeigegerät nach Anspruch 11, bei dem die Flüssigkristallvorrichtung ein Anzeigefeld bildet, bei dem die Ausrichtungsrichtung von Flüssigkristallmolekülen durch Ausnutzung der Ferroelektrizität der Flüssigkristallmischung umgeschaltet wird, um eine Anzeige zu bewirken.
13. Anzeigeverfahren, bei dem eine Flüssigkristallmischung nach Anspruch 5, die Ferroelektrizität zeigt, bereitgestellt wird, und die Ausrichtungsrichtung von Flüssigkristallmolekülen auf der Ferroelektrizität der Flüssigkristallmischung basierend umgeschaltet wird, um eine Anzeige zu bewirken.
14. Anzeigeverfahren, bei dem eine Flüssigkristallvorrichtung nach Anspruch 9 bereitgestellt wird und die Ausrichtungsrichtung von Flüssigkristallmolekülen umgeschaltet wird, um eine Anzeige zu bewirken, die auf der Ferroelektrizität der in der Flüssigkristallvorrichtung enthaltenen Flüssigkristallmischung basiert.

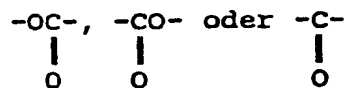
Patentansprüche für folgenden Vertragsstaat : ES

1. Verwendung einer mesomorphen Verbindung, die durch die folgende Formel (I) wiedergegeben wird:

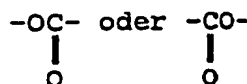


worin R₁ und R₂ jeweils eine Alkylgruppe mit 2 bis 16 Kohlenstoffatomen bezeichnen, die einen

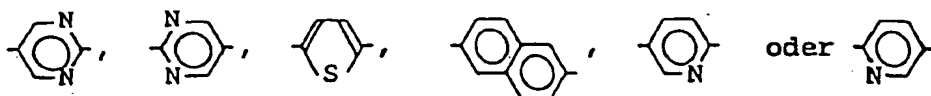
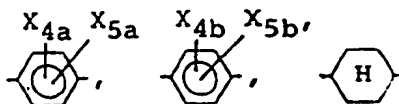
Substituenten haben kann; X_1 und X_3 jeweils eine Einfachbindung, -O-,



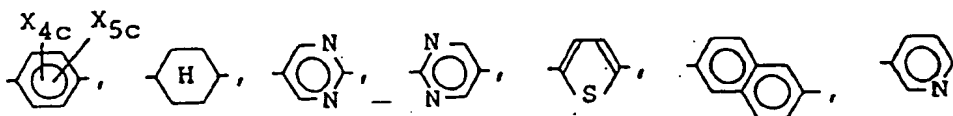
bezeichnen; X_2 eine Einfachbindung,



bezeichnet; A_1 und A_2 jeweils eine Einfachbindung,



bezeichnen; A_3



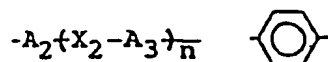
oder



bezeichnet; X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} , $X_{5b'}$, X_{4c} und X_{5c} jeweils Wasserstoff, Fluor, Chlor, Brom, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CN}$ oder $-\text{CF}_3$ bezeichnen und n 0 oder 1 ist, wobei vorausgesetzt ist, daß: X_1 immer eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet, wenn A_1 eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet; X_3 immer eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet, wenn A_2 eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet und n 0 ist; A_1 und A_2 nicht gleichzeitig Einfachbindungen sein können; X_3 nicht -O- sein kann, wenn X_1 eine Einfachbindung oder -O- bezeichnet, A_1 eine Einfachbindung oder



bezeichnet und



bezeichnet und X_1 keine Einfachbindung sein kann, wenn A_1



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bezeichnet und A_2 eine Einfachbindung bezeichnet und n 0 ist,
in einer Flüssigkristallmischung.

- 10 2. Verwendung nach Anspruch 1, bei der die mesomorphe Verbindung durch irgendeine der folgenden Formeln [Ia] bis [Iq] wiedergegeben wird:

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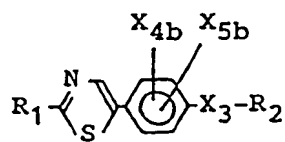
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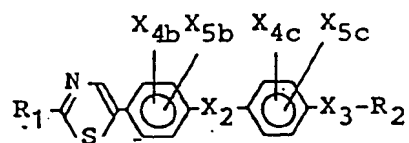
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[Ia],

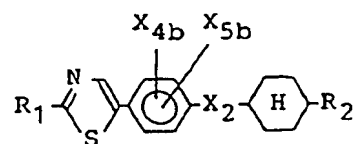
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[Ib],

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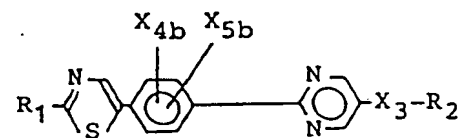
20



[Ic],

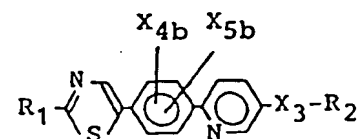
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30



[Id],

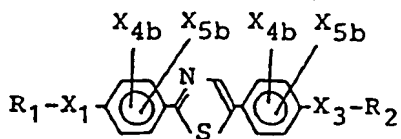
35



[Ie],

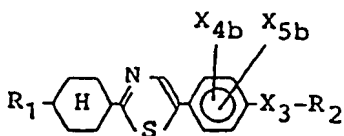
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[If],

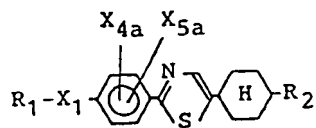
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[Ig],

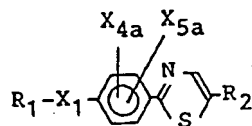
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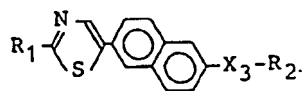
[Ih],

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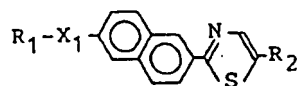
[Ii],

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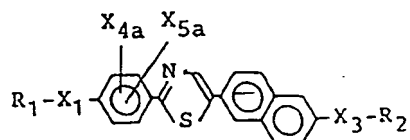
[Ij],

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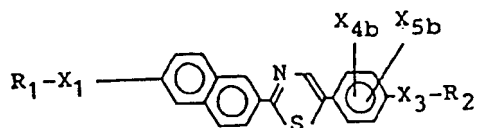
[Ik],

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[Il],

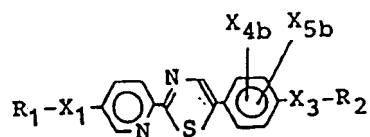
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[Im],

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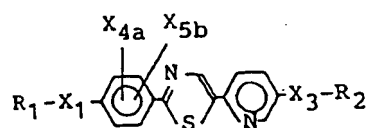
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[In],

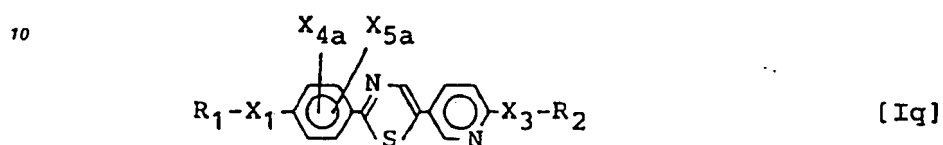
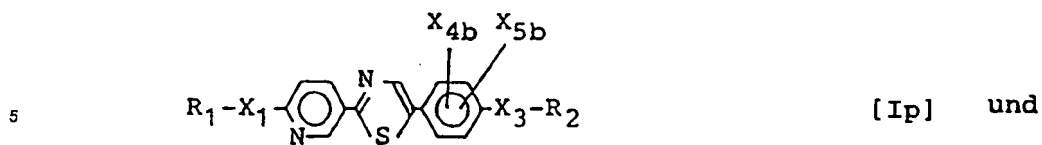
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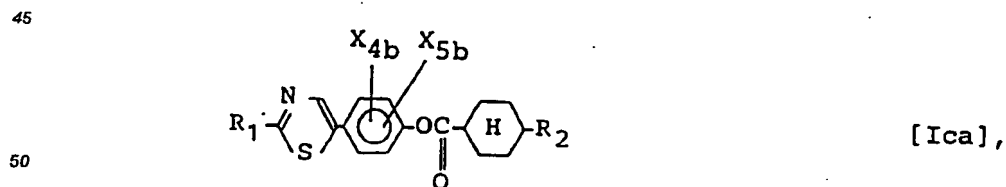
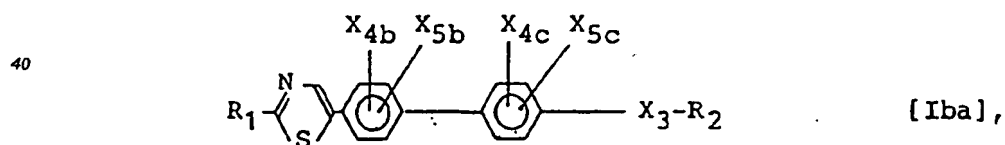
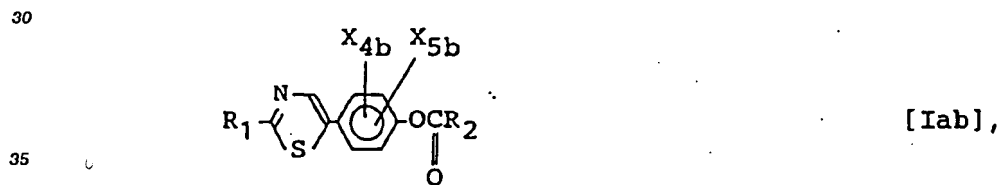
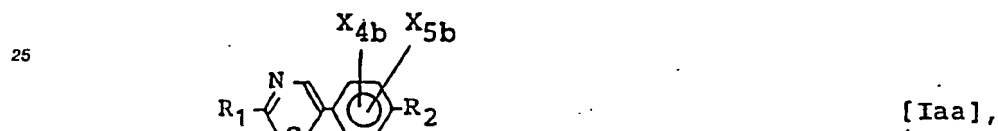
[Io],

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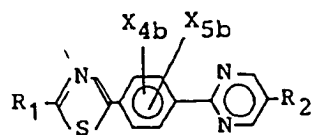


15 wobei vorausgesetzt ist, daß X_3 nicht -O- sein kann, wenn X_{4b} und X_{5b} in der Formel [Ia] beide Wasserstoff bedeuten und wenn X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} und X_{5b} in der Formel [Ii] alle Wasserstoff bedeuten, und X_1 keine Einfachbindung sein kann, wenn X_{4a} und X_{5a} in der Formel [Ii] beide Wasserstoff bedeuten.

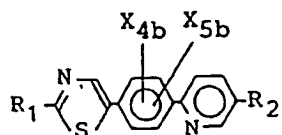
- 20 3. Verwendung nach Anspruch 1, bei der die mesomorphe Verbindung durch irgendeine der folgenden Formeln [Iaa] bis [Iia] wiedergegeben wird:



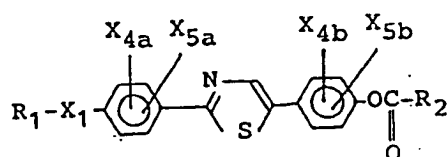
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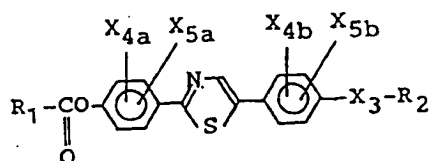
[Ida],



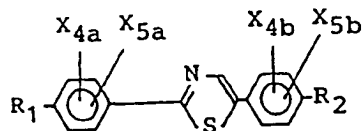
[Iea],



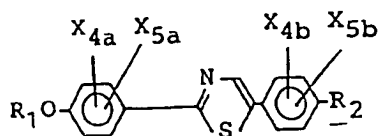
[Ifa],



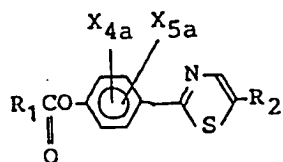
[Ifb],



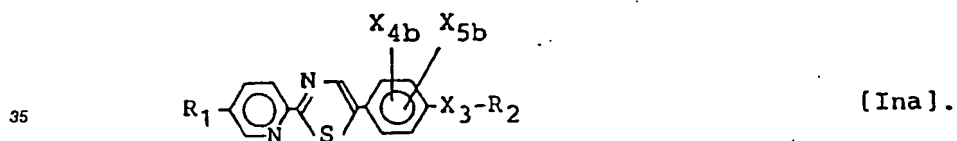
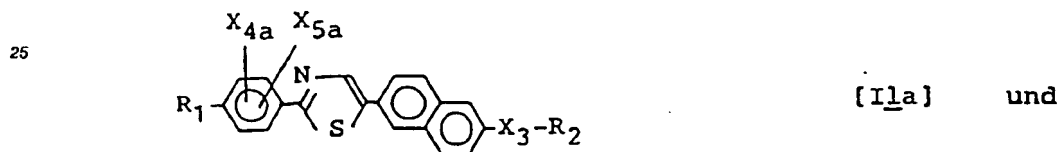
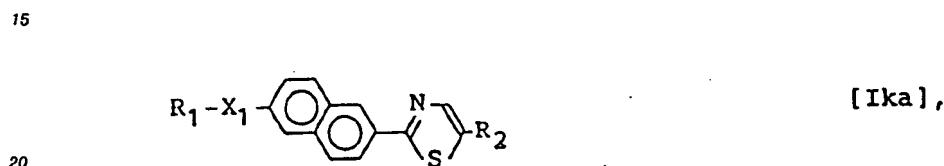
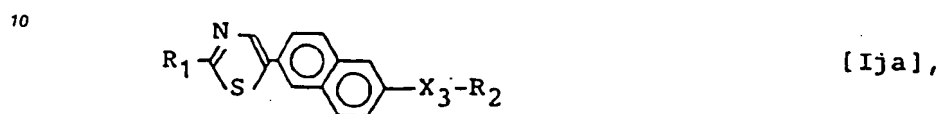
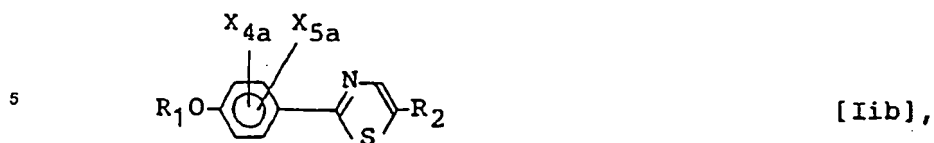
[Ifc],



[Ifd],



[Iia],



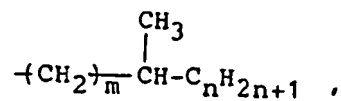
4. Verwendung nach Anspruch 1, bei der R₁ und R₂ der verwendeten mesomorphen Verbindung jeweils
irgendeine der folgenden Gruppen

(i) bis (iv) bezeichnen:

(i) eine n-Alkylgruppe mit 4 bis 14 Kohlenstoffatomen;

(ii)

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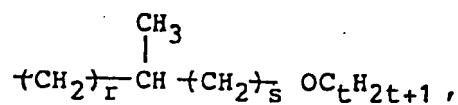


50

worin m eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 6 ist und n eine ganze Zahl von 2 bis 8 ist;

(iii)

55



worin r eine ganze Zahl von 0 bis 6 ist, s 0 oder 1 ist und t eine ganze Zahl von 1 bis 12 ist; und

(iv)



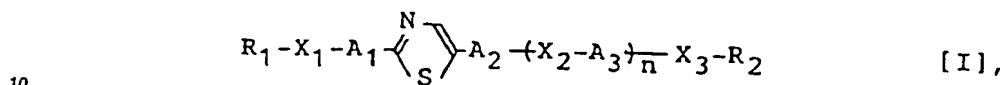
worin m 0 oder 1 ist und x eine ganze Zahl von 1 bis 14 ist.

- 10
5. Verwendung mindestens einer mesomorphen Verbindung der Formel (I) nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4 in einer Flüssigkristallmischung, die mindestens zwei mesomorphe Verbindungen umfaßt.
- 15
6. Verwendung nach Anspruch 5, bei der die Flüssigkristallmischung pro 100 Masseteile mindestens einer Spezies einer anderen mesomorphen Verbindung, die von der mesomorphen Verbindung der Formel (I) verschieden ist, 1 bis 500 Masseteile einer mesomorphen Verbindung der Formel (I) umfaßt.
- 20
7. Verwendung nach Anspruch 5, bei der die Flüssigkristallmischung pro 100 Masseteile mindestens einer Spezies einer anderen mesomorphen Verbindung, die von der mesomorphen Verbindung der Formel (I) verschieden ist, 1 bis 500 Masseteile von zwei oder mehr Spezies von mesomorphen Verbindungen der Formel (I) umfaßt.
- 25
8. Verwendung nach Anspruch 5, bei der die Flüssigkristallmischung eine chirale smektische Phase annimmt.
9. Flüssigkristallvorrichtung, die ein Paar Elektrodenplatten und eine Flüssigkristallmischung nach Anspruch 5, die zwischen den Elektrodenplatten angeordnet ist, umfaßt.
- 30
10. Flüssigkristallvorrichtung nach Anspruch 9, die ferner eine isolierende Ausrichtungseinstellungsschicht umfaßt.
11. Anzeigegerät, das eine Flüssigkristallvorrichtung nach Anspruch 9 und eine Einrichtung zum Anlegen einer Spannung für die Ansteuerung der Flüssigkristallvorrichtung umfaßt.
- 35
12. Anzeigegerät nach Anspruch 11, bei dem die Flüssigkristallvorrichtung ein Anzeigefeld bildet, bei dem die Ausrichtungsrichtung von Flüssigkristallmolekülen durch Ausnutzung der Ferroelektrizität der Flüssigkristallmischung umgeschaltet wird, um eine Anzeige zu bewirken.
- 40
13. Anzeigeverfahren, bei dem eine Flüssigkristallmischung nach Anspruch 5, die Ferroelektrizität zeigt, bereitgestellt wird, und die Ausrichtungsrichtung von Flüssigkristallmolekülen auf der Ferroelektrizität der Flüssigkristallmischung basierend umgeschaltet wird, um eine Anzeige zu bewirken.
- 45
14. Anzeigeverfahren, bei dem eine Flüssigkristallvorrichtung nach Anspruch 9 bereitgestellt wird und die Ausrichtungsrichtung von Flüssigkristallmolekülen umgeschaltet wird, um eine Anzeige zu bewirken, die auf der Ferroelektrizität der in der Flüssigkristallvorrichtung enthaltenen Flüssigkristallmischung basiert.
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Revendications

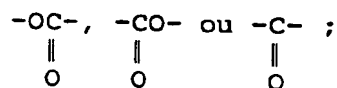
Revendications pour les Etats contractants suivants : AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE

- 5 1. Composé mésomorphe représenté par la formule (I) suivante :



dans laquelle R_1 et R_2 représentent, respectivement, un groupe alkyle ayant 2 à 16 atomes de carbone, capable de porter un substituant ; X_1 et X_3 représentent respectivement une liaison simple, -O-,

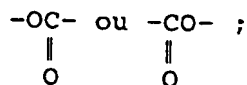
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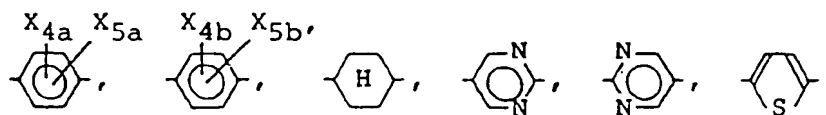
X_2 représente une liaison simple,

25



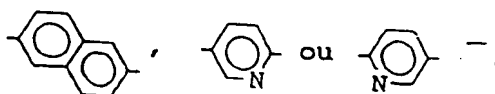
A_1 et A_2 représentent respectivement une liaison simple,

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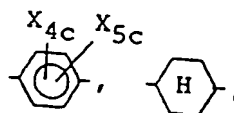
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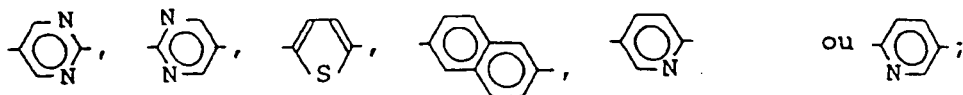
A_3 représente

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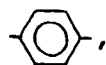
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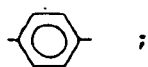
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10 X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} , X_{5b} , X_{4c} et X_{5c} représentent respectivement l'hydrogène, le fluor, le chlore, le brome, un groupe $-CH_3$, $-CN$ ou $-CF_3$; et n a la valeur 0 ou 1, sous réserve que : X_1 désigne toujours une liaison simple lorsque A_1 désigne une liaison simple, que X_3 désigne toujours une liaison simple lorsque A_2 désigne une liaison simple et n est égal à 0; que A_1 et A_2 ne puissent pas être simultanément des liaisons simples; que X_3 ne puisse pas représenter $-O-$ lorsque X_1 représente une liaison simple ou $-O-$, A_1 représente une liaison simple ou

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20 et $-A_2\{X_2-A_3\}_n$ désigne



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et que X_1 ne puisse pas être une liaison simple lorsque A_1 représente

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et A_2 représente une liaison simple et n est égal à 0.

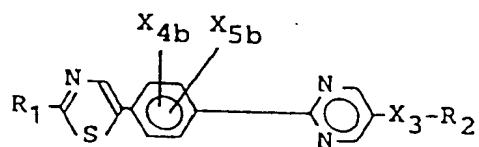
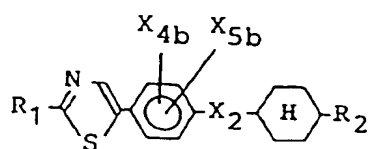
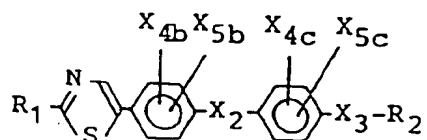
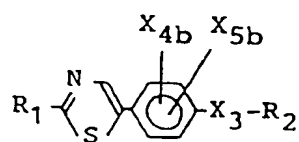
35 2. Composé mésomorphe suivant la revendication 1, qui est représenté par l'une quelconque des formules [Ia] - [Ig] suivantes :

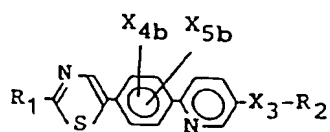
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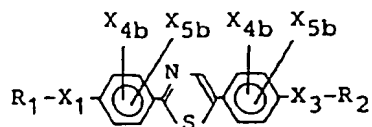
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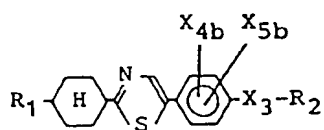




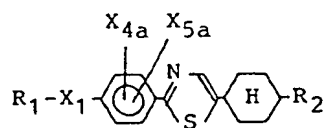
[Ie],



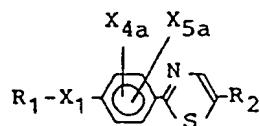
[If],



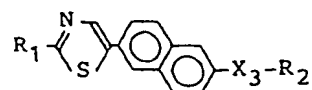
[Ig],



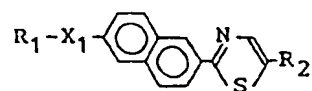
[Ih],



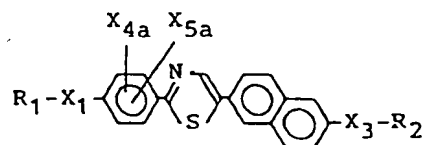
[Ii],



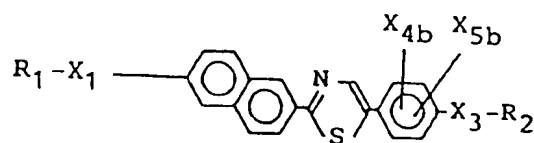
[Ij],



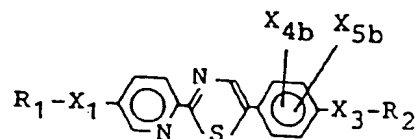
[Ik],



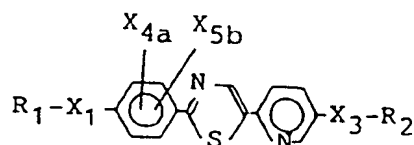
[Il],



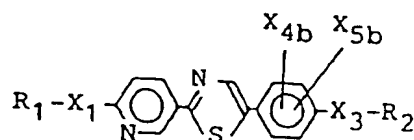
[Im],



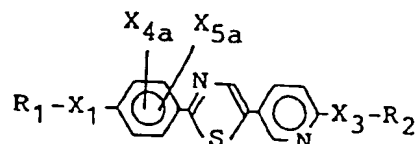
[In],



[Io],



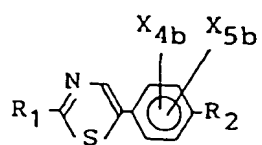
[Ip], et



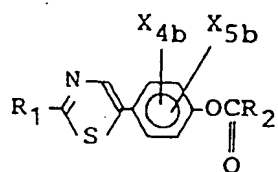
[Iq]

sous réserve que X_3 ne puisse pas être -O- lorsque X_{4b} et X_{5b} sont tous deux de l'hydrogène dans la formule [Ia] et lorsque X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} et X_{5b} sont tous de l'hydrogène dans la formule [If] ; et que X_1 ne puisse pas être une liaison simple lorsque X_{4a} et X_{5a} sont tous deux de l'hydrogène dans la formule [Ii].

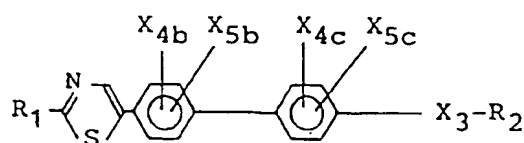
3. Composé mésomorphe suivant la revendication 1, qui est représenté par l'une quelconque des formules [Iaa] - [Iia] suivantes :



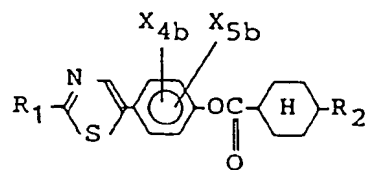
[Iaa],



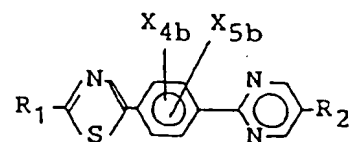
[Iab],



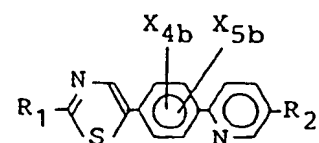
[Iba],



[Ica],

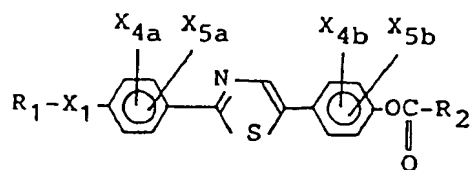


[Ida],



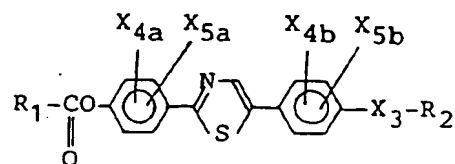
[Iea],

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[Ifa],

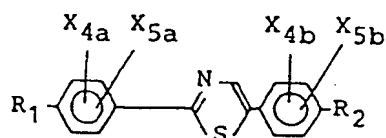
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[Ifb],

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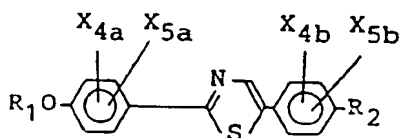
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[Ifc],

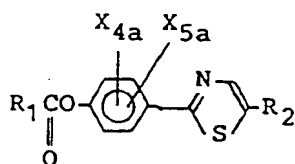
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[Ifd],

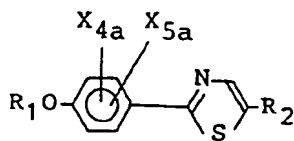
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[Iia],

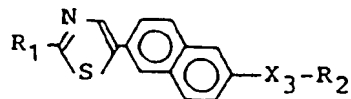
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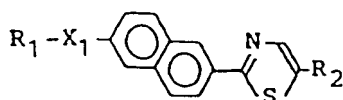
[Iib],

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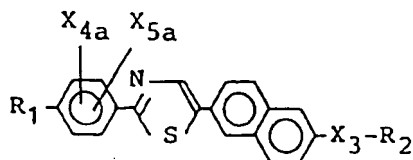
[Ija],

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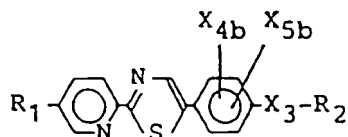
[Ika],

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[Ila], et

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[Ia].

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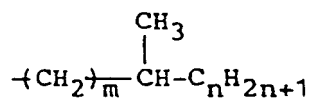
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4. Composé mésomorphe suivant la revendication 1, dans lequel R_1 et R_2 désignent respectivement l'un quelconque des groupes (i) - (iv) suivants :

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- (i) un groupe n-alkyle ayant 4 à 14 atomes de carbone ;
(ii)

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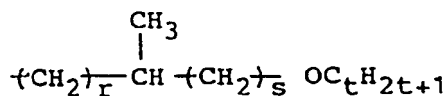


où m est un nombre entier de 0 à 6 et n est un nombre entier de 2 à 8 ;

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(iii)

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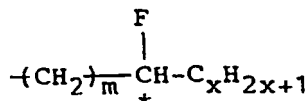


où r est un nombre entier de 0 à 6, s a la valeur 0 ou 1 et t est un nombre entier de 1 à 12 ; et

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(iv)

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où m a la valeur 0 ou 1 et x est un nombre entier de 1 à 14.

5. Composition à cristal liquide, comprenant au moins deux composés mésomorphes dont l'un au moins est un composé mésomorphe de formule (I) suivant l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 4.

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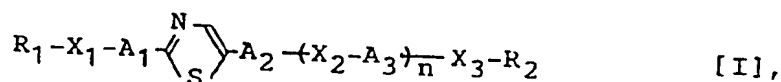
6. Composition à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 5, qui comprend 1 à 500 parties en poids d'un composé mésomorphe de formule (I) pour 100 parties en poids d'au moins un représentant d'un autre

composé mésomorphe différent du composé mésomorphe de formule (I).

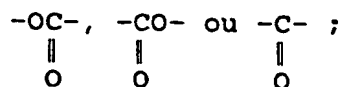
7. Composition à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 5, qui comprend 1 à 500 parties en poids de deux ou plus de deux représentants de composés mésomorphes de formule (I) pour 100 parties en poids d'au moins un représentant d'un autre composé mésomorphe différent du composé mésomorphe de formule (I).
8. Composition à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 5, qui adopte une phase smectique chirale.
9. Dispositif à cristal liquide, comprenant une paire de plaques d'électrodes et une composition à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 5 disposée entre les plaques d'électrodes.
10. Dispositif à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 9, qui comprend en outre une couche isolante de réglage d'alignement.
11. Appareil d'affichage comprenant un dispositif à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 9, et un moyen d'application d'une tension pour attaquer le dispositif à cristal liquide.
12. Appareil d'affichage à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 11, dans lequel le dispositif à cristal liquide constitue un panneau d'affichage dans lequel la direction d'alignement des molécules de cristal liquide est commutée par utilisation de la ferroélectricité de la composition à cristal liquide pour effectuer l'affichage.
13. Procédé d'affichage, comprenant les étapes qui consistent :
à prendre une composition à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 5, douée de ferroélectricité et
à commuter la direction d'alignement des molécules de cristal liquide sur la base de la ferroélectricité de la composition à cristal liquide pour effectuer l'affichage.
14. Procédé d'affichage, qui comprend les étapes consistant :
à prendre un dispositif à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 9, et
à commuter la direction d'alignement des molécules de cristal liquide pour effectuer l'affichage sur la base de la ferroélectricité de la composition à cristal liquide contenue dans le dispositif à cristal liquide.

Revendications pour l'Etat contractant suivant : ES

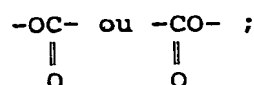
1. Utilisation, dans une composition à cristal liquide, d'un composé mésomorphe représenté par la formule (I) suivante :



- dans laquelle R_1 et R_2 représentent, respectivement, un groupe alkyle ayant 2 à 16 atomes de carbone, capable de porter un substituant ; X_1 et X_3 représentent respectivement une liaison simple, -O-,



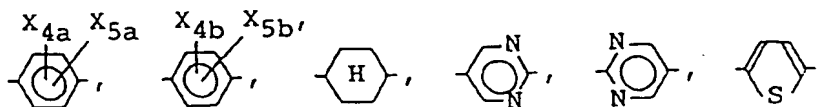
X_2 représente une liaison simple,



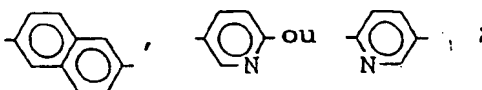
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A_1 et A_2 représentent respectivement une liaison simple,

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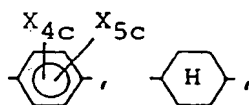
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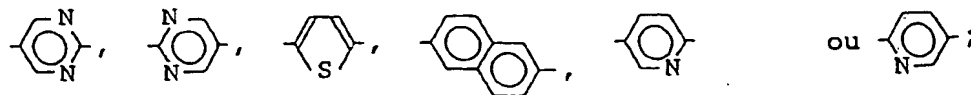
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A_3 représente

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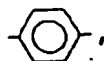


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X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} , X_{5b} , X_{4c} et X_{5c} représentent respectivement l'hydrogène, le fluor, le chlore, le brome, un groupe $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CN}$ ou $-\text{CF}_3$; et n a la valeur 0 ou 1, sous réserve que : X_1 désigne toujours une liaison simple lorsque A_1 désigne une liaison simple, que X_3 désigne toujours une liaison simple lorsque A_2 désigne une liaison simple et n est égal à 0; que A_1 et A_2 ne puissent pas être simultanément des liaisons simples; que X_3 ne puisse pas représenter $-\text{O}-$ lorsque X_1 représente une liaison simple ou $-\text{O}-$, A_1 représente une liaison simple ou

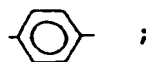
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et $-A_2\{X_2-A_3\}_n$ désigne

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et que X_1 ne puisse pas être une liaison simple lorsque A_1 représente

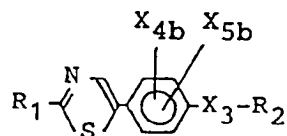


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et A_2 représente une liaison simple et n est égal à 0.

2. Utilisation suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle le composé mésomorphe est représenté par l'une quelconque des formules [Ia] - [Iq] suivantes :

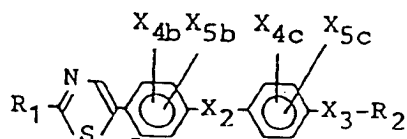
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[Ia],

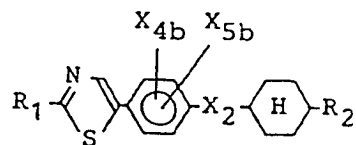
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[Ib],

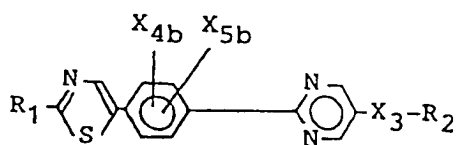
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[Ic],

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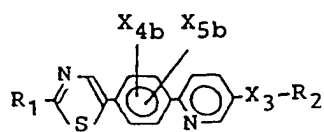


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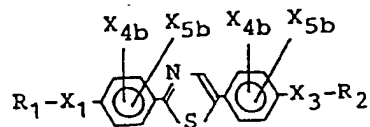
[Id],

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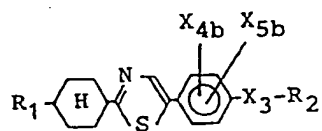
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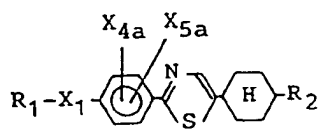
[Ie],



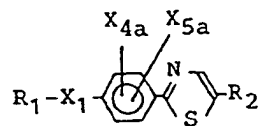
[If],



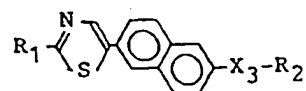
[Ig],



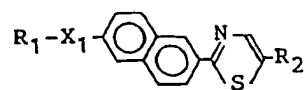
[Ih],



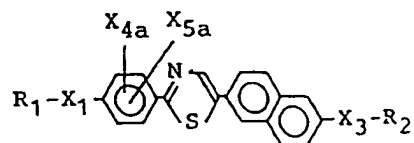
[Ii],



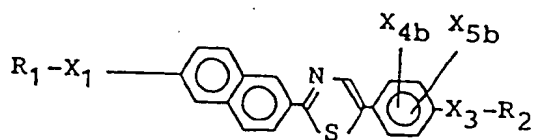
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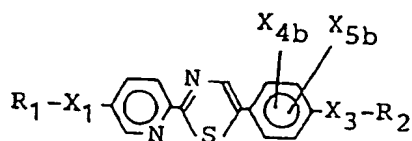
[Ik],



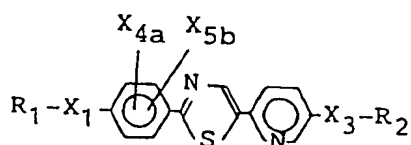
[Il],



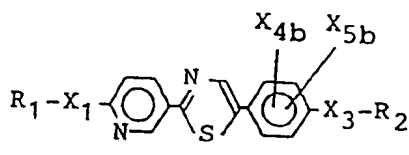
[Im],



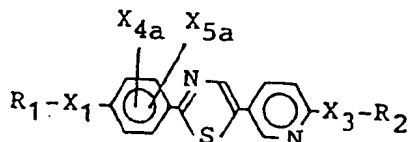
[In],



[Io],



[Ip], et

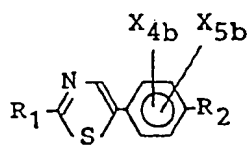


[Iq]

sous réserve que X_3 ne puisse pas être -O- lorsque X_{4b} et X_{5b} sont tous deux de l'hydrogène dans la formule [Ia] et lorsque X_{4a} , X_{5a} , X_{4b} et X_{5b} sont tous de l'hydrogène dans la formule [If] : et que X_1 ne puisse pas être une liaison simple lorsque X_{4a} et X_{5a} sont tous deux de l'hydrogène dans la formule [Ii].

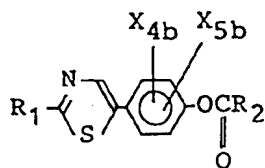
3. Utilisation suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle le composé mésomorphe est représenté par l'une quelconque des formules [Iaa] - [Iia] suivantes :

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[Iaa],

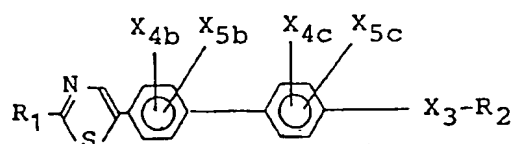
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[Iab],

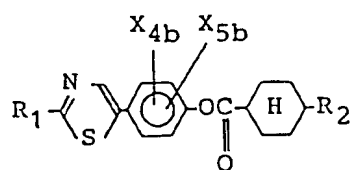
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[Iba],

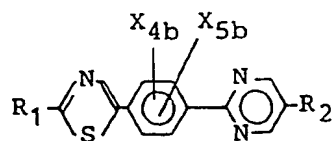
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[Ica],

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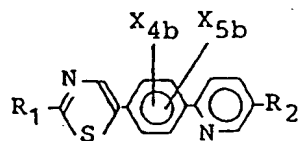
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[Ida],

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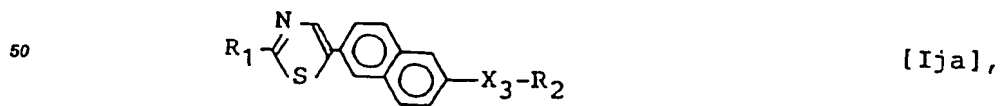
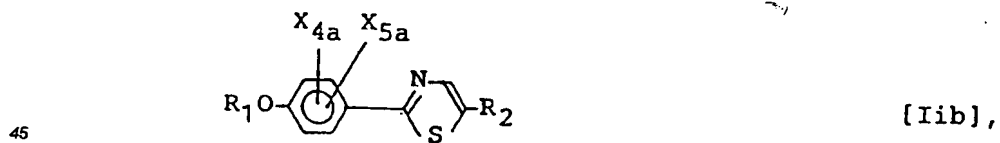
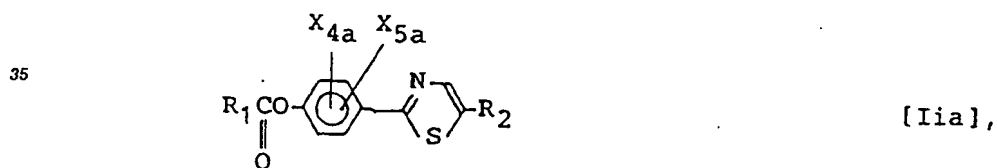
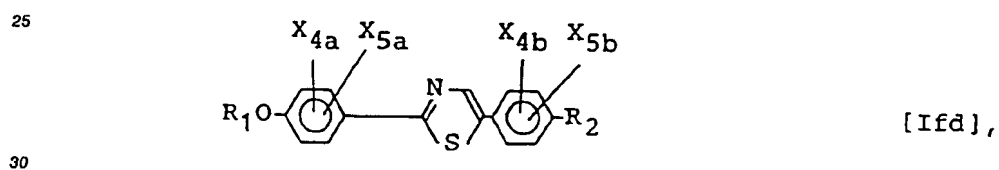
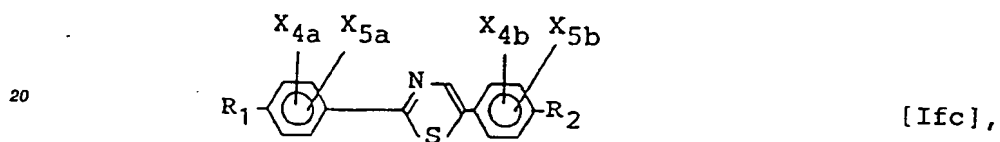
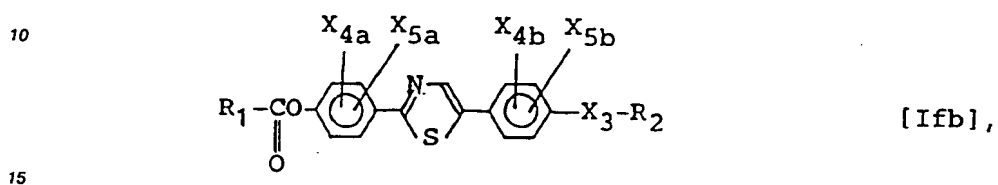
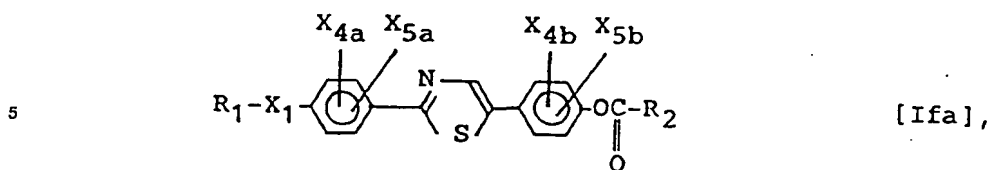
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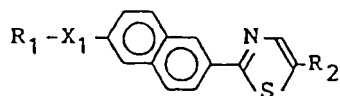
[Iea],

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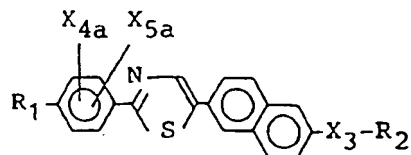
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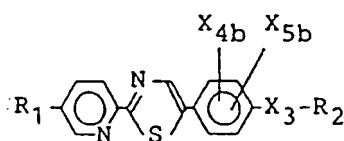
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[Ika],



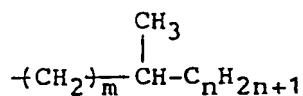
[Ila], et



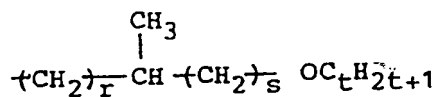
[Ila].

4. Utilisation suivant la revendication 1, dans laquelle R_1 et R_2 dans le composé mésomorphe utilisé désignent respectivement l'un quelconque des groupes (i) - (iv) suivants :

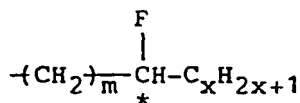
- (i) un groupe n-alkyle ayant 4 à 14 atomes de carbone ;
(ii)



- où m est un nombre entier de 0 à 6 et n est un nombre entier de 2 à 8 ;
(iii)



- où r est un nombre entier de 0 à 6, s a la valeur 0 ou 1 et t est un nombre entier de 1 à 12 ; et
(iv)



- où m a la valeur 0 ou 1 et x est un nombre entier de 1 à 14.

5. Utilisation d'au moins un composé mésomorphe de formule (I) suivant l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 4 dans une composition à cristal liquide, comprenant au moins deux composés mésomorphes.

6. Utilisation suivant la revendication 5, dans laquelle la composition à cristal liquide comprend 1 à 500 parties en poids d'un composé mésomorphe de formule (I) pour 100 parties en poids d'au moins un représentant d'un autre composé mésomorphe différent du composé mésomorphe de formule (I).
- 5 7. Utilisation suivant la revendication 5, dans laquelle la composition à cristal liquide comprend 1 à 500 parties en poids de deux ou plus de deux représentants de composés mésomorphes de formule (I) pour 100 parties en poids d'au moins un représentant d'un autre composé mésomorphe différent du composé mésomorphe de formule (I).
- 10 8. Utilisation suivant la revendication 5, dans laquelle la composition à cristal liquide adopte une phase smectique chirale.
9. Dispositif à cristal liquide, comprenant une paire de plaques d'électrodes et une composition à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 5 disposée entre les plaques d'électrodes.
- 15 10. Dispositif à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 9, qui comprend en outre une couche isolante de réglage d'alignement.
11. Appareil d'affichage comprenant un dispositif à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 9, et un moyen d'application d'une tension pour attaquer le dispositif à cristal liquide.
- 20 12. Appareil d'affichage à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 11, dans lequel le dispositif à cristal liquide constitue un panneau d'affichage dans lequel la direction d'alignement des molécules de cristal liquide est commutée par utilisation de la ferroélectricité de la composition à cristal liquide pour effectuer l'affichage.
- 25 13. Procédé d'affichage, comprenant les étapes qui consistent :
à prendre une composition à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 5, douée de ferroélectricité et
à commuter la direction d'alignement des molécules de cristal liquide sur la base de la ferroélectricité de la composition à cristal liquide pour effectuer l'affichage.
- 30 14. Procédé d'affichage, qui comprend les étapes consistant :
à prendre un dispositif à cristal liquide suivant la revendication 9, et
à commuter la direction d'alignement des molécules de cristal liquide pour effectuer l'affichage sur
la base de la ferroélectricité de la composition à cristal liquide contenue dans le dispositif à cristal
liquide.
- 35
- 40
- 45
- 50
- 55

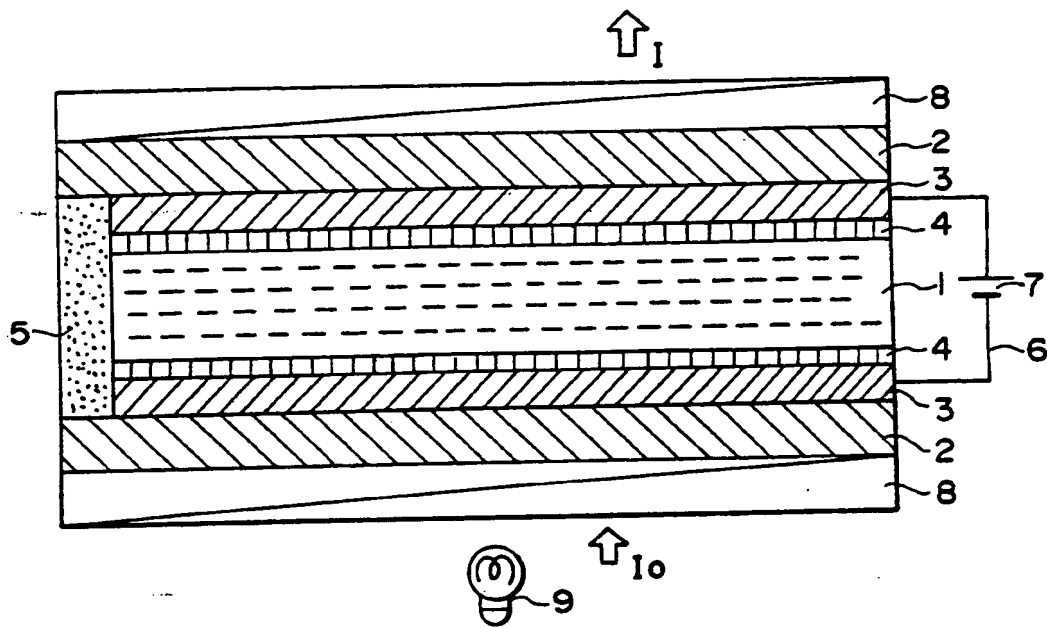


FIG. 1

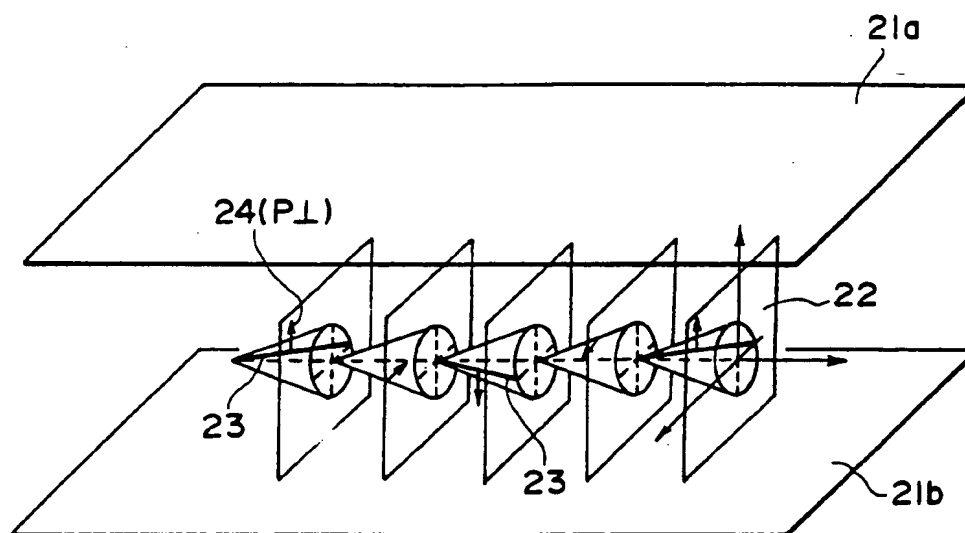


FIG. 2

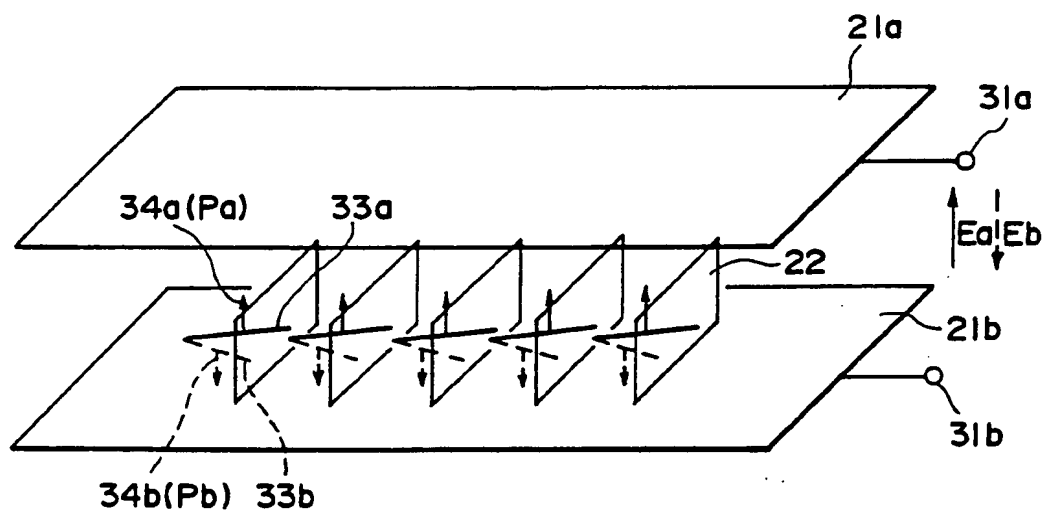


FIG. 3

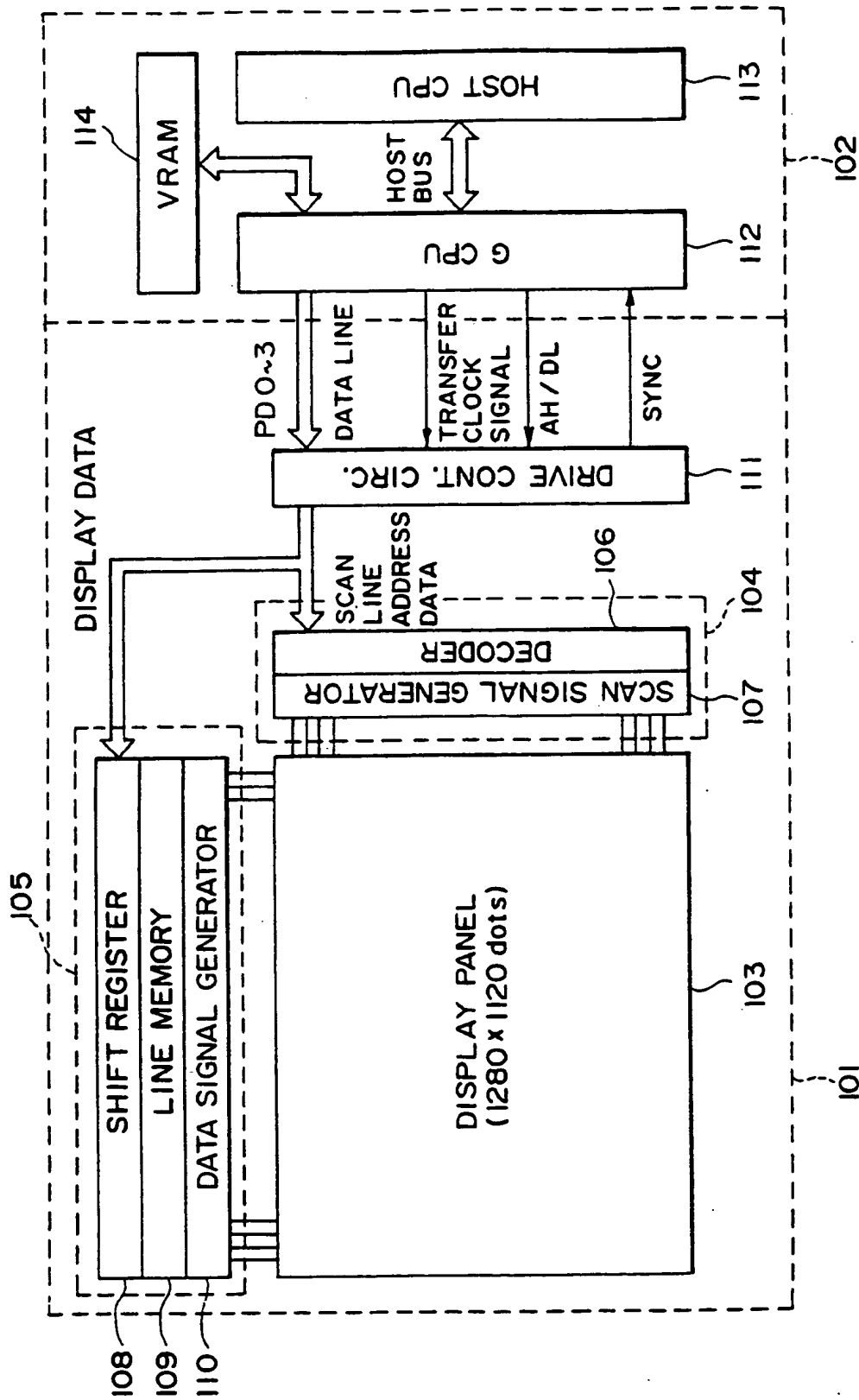


FIG. 4

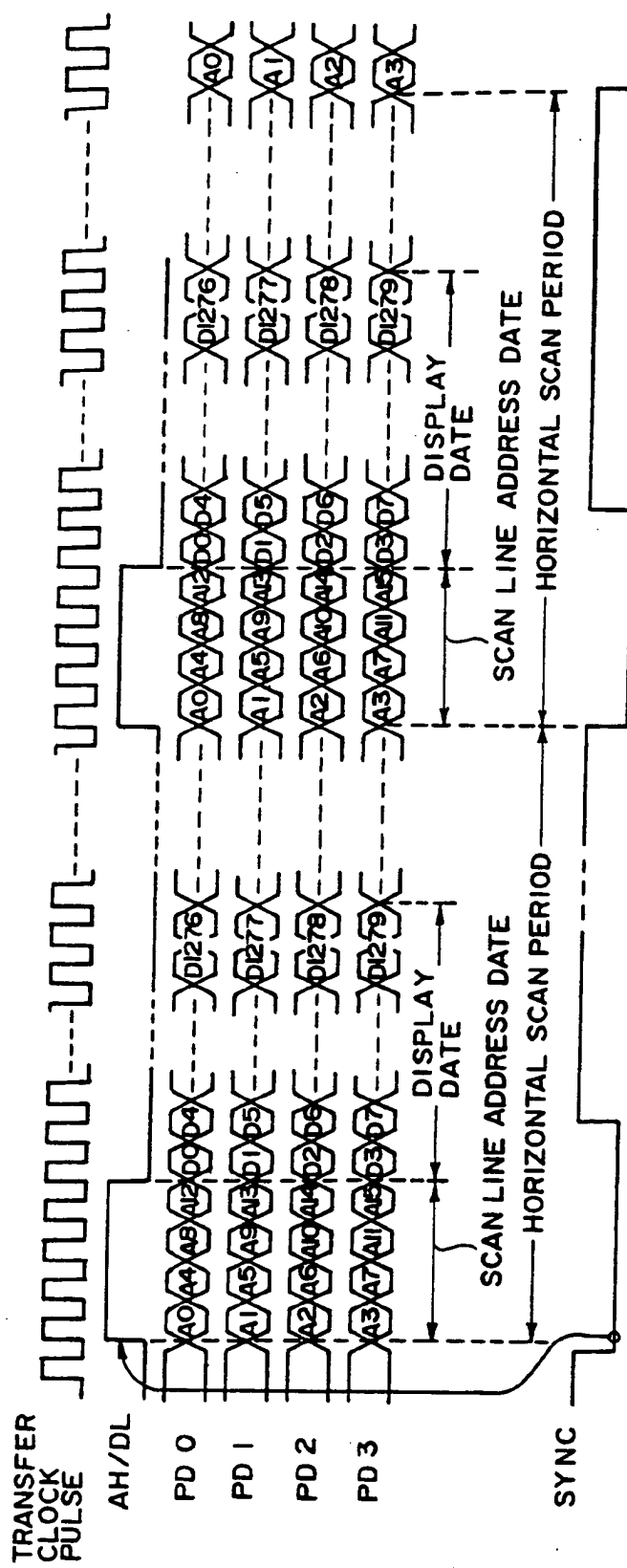


FIG. 5

